



# **List of the Disappeared in Turkmenistan's Prisons**

**September 2019**

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*The international Prove They Are Alive! human rights campaign has been working since 2013 to protect the rights of people held incommunicado in Turkmen prisons and to halt the practice of enforced disappearances in Turkmenistan. The campaign acts with the support of the international Civic Solidarity Platform and actively interacts with a broad range of human rights defenders, experts, and intergovernmental organizations, including the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and the European Union. Campaign participants include Crude Accountability (USA), Center for the Development of Democracy and Human Rights (Russia), Freedom Files (Poland), Human Rights Center "Memorial" (Russia), Human Rights Watch (international NGO), Norwegian Helsinki Committee, and a group of civic activists inside Turkmenistan.*

*Human Rights Center "Memorial," Crude Accountability, Center for the Development of Democracy and Human Rights, Freedom Files, and a group of civic activists inside Turkmenistan worked on this report. The Prove They Are Alive! campaign thanks the individuals and organizations that provided valuable information used to create this list, many of whom were required to contribute anonymously. We would not have been able to create this list without their help and support. The Prove They Are Alive! campaign takes full responsibility for the composition of the list. Although we have made every effort to be as precise and accurate as possible in the creation of this list, we cannot be held legally responsible for any error, omissions, or imprecisions.*

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## **Introduction**

Enforced disappearance is a grave human rights violation according to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. It is also a form of inhuman and degrading treatment both for the disappeared and their families, thus falling also under the scope of the UN Convention against Torture. Turkmenistan has ratified both the Covenant and the Convention, and its constitutional framework stresses that domestic legislation must comply with international law. Turkmen criminal legislation does not permit full isolation of prisoners, regardless of the crime committed. Nevertheless, the authorities impose this cruel and illegal punishment on anyone they consider to be a political threat to their power due to their opinions, influence, or visibility.

Over the last 17 years, enforced disappearances have been a systematic practice in Turkmenistan.

Since 2014, the Prove They Are Alive! campaign has published a regularly updated list of the disappeared in Turkmenistan's prisons, based on thorough research, including a review of available documents and independent sources. The number of documented cases of enforced disappearance in prison in this updated list is 121. However, one must keep in mind that in the context of severe suppression of civil liberties and denial of access to the country for foreign human rights organizations and international observers, this list is inevitably incomplete. According to our estimates, the total number of victims of enforced and involuntary disappearances in Turkmenistan is in the order of hundreds, and some prisoners have been held incommunicado since 2002.

The list of the disappeared is separated into four categories: the so-called Novemberists (those convicted in connection with the alleged coup attempt of November 25, 2002), those charged with Islamic extremism, those charged with economic crimes and abuse of power, and civil society activists.

In recent years, in response to increasing international pressure and criticism, the Turkmen authorities have softened their position concerning the prohibition of handing over the bodies of deceased incommunicado prisoners to their families. In the course of dialogues with various international organizations, the authorities have started to provide information about a number of the disappeared who are included in our list, claiming that some of them have been granted visitation with their relatives. Since 2018, some of the prisoners being held in Ovadan Depe prison who were convicted of religious extremism were granted visitation. In September of last year, the authorities announced the adoption

of almost all the recommendations made by various countries within the framework of the May 2018 UN Universal Periodic Review (UPR) regarding enforced disappearances, the situation in prisons, the prevention of torture, and the provision of visits to the country by UN special procedures, including the Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances (WGEID). These events have demonstrated the effectiveness of international pressure. This progress was the result of active involvement by the international community (a letter from 14 ambassadors to the OSCE in March 2018, recommendations from 19 countries on enforced disappearances under the UPR in May 2018, active dialogue with WGEID in the first half of 2018, etc.).

However, since the fall of 2018, when public actions gave way to “quiet diplomacy” in the dialogue with Turkmenistan on the issue of enforced disappearances, a stage of stagnation has begun. The government has stopped providing information about victims of enforced disappearance in international forums. Three communications from the WGEID on individual cases (Batyrberdyev, Rustem Djumaev, and Serdar Rakhimov) and a general allegation letter from the Working Group on the problem of enforced disappearances in Turkmenistan’s prisons remain unanswered since September 2018. Discussion of a visit by the WGEID to the country was abruptly discontinued. Recommendations regarding the problem of enforced disappearance and related questions were not included in the draft road map on implementation of the UPR commitments. The circle of Ovadan Depe prisoners who were granted permission for visits has not expanded. Civic activist Gulgeldy Annaniyazov, who served in March 2019 his 11-year sentence in full, having been kept in total isolation from the outside world all this time, was not freed, despite the fact that, according to unofficial information, an audit carried out with the participation of government departments recognized the illegality of his placement in internal exile in accordance with applicable law.

The prison terms of a number of individuals on the list have already expired or will expire in the near future. This makes the issue of disappearance in prison more urgent than ever. The fate of these disappeared individuals is unknown, with the exception of civic activist Gulgeldy Annaniyazov. Particular attention on the part of the international community to this group of disappeared could save their lives, as there is a high risk that they will be given new sentences on fabricated charges.

Due to the fact that data provided earlier by the authorities in closed dialogues with international organizations were not always credible or required additional verification, and cases of deaths were often not officially reported, in the current version of the list we have kept the differentiation into distinct groups those who, according to the Turkmen authorities, have been visited by relatives, but the visits have not been confirmed by independent sources (14 people), and those who have died in custody and their deaths have been reliably confirmed (27 people, but the actual number of deaths among the disappeared is certainly higher). Such a deadly pattern, coupled with the government’s failure to carry out investigations into the deaths, may constitute extrajudicial executions, according to international law.

As in the past, the government of Turkmenistan refuses to disclose any information about the overwhelming majority of the cases from the list of the disappeared to their relatives and the international community. It continues to fail to implement relevant decisions by inter-governmental bodies and has avoided taking any significant steps to end this gross violation of human rights, instead simulating an ineffective “dialogue” with international organizations on this issue.

### *The Novemberists*

The list includes the cases of 60 Novemberists who disappeared into Turkmenistan’s prison system as well as one individual accused in 2004 of assisting relatives of Novemberists to flee the country. At least nine Novemberists we know for certain have died in prison.

All Novemberists were arrested, tried in court, and disappeared in connection with the alleged coup attempt which took place on November 25, 2002. In all cases, their families have not heard from them since they were disappeared. These individuals have not had access to legal representation or medical care, and they have been given no contact with the outside world. Most of the Novemberists were arrested in November and December 2002, and tried in January 2003. In addition, there were a number of arrests and trials as part of this case in the summer of 2003 and in 2005. The Novemberists were given sentences of between 12 and 25 years, and six were sentenced to life imprisonment, although life imprisonment is not a legal punishment in Turkmenistan’s law.

According to unofficial information from former prisoners of the Ovadan Depe prison, all of the Novemberists have been held incommunicado in a special bloc of this prison during Niyazov’s presidency (President Niyazov died on December 21, 2006), and this practice has continued since then. This is a violation of their sentencing, which states that after 3-5 years (depending on the individual case), these prisoners should be transferred to a regular prison colony.

Over many years, the bodies of Novemberists who died in prison were not handed over to the families for burial, nor were the families informed of the deaths. It was only in 2016 that the bodies of two deceased Novemberists were handed over to the families for the first time.

In May 2019, Seyran Mamedov, who was convicted in 2004 of assisting a relative of a Novemberist to flee the country, was released when he served his sentence in full. Thus, his name has been removed from the list of the disappeared.

Mamur Ataev who was convicted in the same case, should also have been released at the same time. In 2018, the authorities asserted that he was serving his sentence in a regular colony and was visited by relatives, but this information has not been confirmed by independent sources. Information about his fate is not available.

In 2016, the Turkmen authorities informed international organizations that two prisoners whose prison terms ended in 2014 (Muhammetberdy Movlamov and Dovletguly Nazargulliev) had been transferred from a prison to a “designated location” and visited by relatives. This information has not been confirmed by independent sources.

The government refuses to provide any official information concerning the fate of all other Novemberists, including Esen Buriev, Isy Garataev, and Bazar Gurbanov, whose prison terms ended in 2017-2018.

The prison terms of Annageldy Akmuradov and Konstantin Shikhmuradov expire in the fall of 2019, but their fates are also unknown.

### *Those Accused of “Islamic Extremism”*

Thirty-two disappeared included in this list were accused of “Islamic extremism.” At least four of the disappeared in this category have died in prison. Most were given sentences of between 8 and 25 years in prison. The charges usually included inciting religious hatred, conspiracy to seize power, public calls to a violent change of the constitutional order, creating a criminal organization, and some others. In a number of known cases, those charged with extremism included members of non-violent religious communities or people refusing to cooperate with security agencies. In several cases, those given sentences of between 2.5 and 3 years on suspicion of extremism were then re-sentenced to longer terms while in prison, allegedly for more serious crimes, and the details of these sentences are not known.

As far as we know, Turkmenistan introduced the incommunicado regime for convicted Muslims following armed incidents in Ashgabat in September 2008 (for more details, see <http://memohrc.org/uploads/files/32.doc>). These incidents triggered a series of large-scale arrests and fabricated criminal cases against the so-called “Wahhabis.” A new wave of arrests started in 2013 and increased after Russian TV released video footage of Turkmen citizens arrested in Syria in June 2013. In 2016, triggered by the events in Turkey, arrests of followers of Islamic preacher Fethullah Gülen, who lives in the United States, began in Turkmenistan. In 2017, the Turkmen authorities started arresting distributors of the *Risale-i Nur* books authored by the Turkish Islamic thinker Said Nursi.

Although these arrest campaigns affected hundreds of Turkmen citizens, it was only in 2016 that international human rights organizations were able to find out some of the names, due to problems with obtaining information.

In December 2017, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention published a preliminary version of its opinion that the 18 Turkmen Muslims convicted of alleged support of the Fethullah Gülen movement were deprived of their liberty in violation of international law and urged the government to bring the situation into conformity with the standards and principles set forth in the international norms, release the 18 individuals and take other necessary steps.

Harsh criticism voiced at various international venues prompted the Turkmen authorities to partly review their position concerning the right of this group of prisoners to be visited by relatives. Since the end of January 2018, some Muslims convicted in 2017 and held incommunicado have been allowed for the first time to see their families. Since May 2018, dozens of convicted Muslims being held in Ovadan Depe were allowed regular visits (every two months). According to witnesses, the visits took place in one of the buildings of the Ovadan Depe prison which prisoners' relatives had not been allowed to access before ([http://memohrc.org/en/news\\_old/vlasti-turkmenistana-razreshili-vidaniya-a-nekotorym-politicheskim-zaklyuchennym-v-ovadan](http://memohrc.org/en/news_old/vlasti-turkmenistana-razreshili-vidaniya-a-nekotorym-politicheskim-zaklyuchennym-v-ovadan)).

Given this new situation, sixteen new cases of enforced disappearances of Muslims in 2017, about which we have learned in the past year and a half, were not included in our previous list and are not included in this updated list of disappeared, since starting in 2018, according to relatives, they have been provided visitation. At the same time, the conditions of detention remain extremely harsh: at least two of these sixteen died in custody in 2018-2019, shortly after their relatives were able to visit them.

Although the Turkmen authorities have somewhat relaxed their policy regarding visits from family members, the problem of incommunicado detention of this category of prisoners remains urgent, as evidenced, *inter alia*, by the ongoing unsuccessful appeals to authorities by Annamurad Atdaev's wife, who has been trying for more than two years to get permission to visit her husband.

Cases of Kemal Saparov and Kakadjan Khakbaev, Turkmen students who were studying in Saint Petersburg and convicted in 2018 shortly after their return to Turkmenistan for holidays, were added to the updated list. A case of Sultan Bebitov, who was convicted in 2013 in the case of the Group of Bakhrom Saparov, was also included.

Ilham Bektemirov was removed from the list as he was released from prison in December 2018.

In June 2018, the Turkmen government informed international organizations that 9 out of the 18 people mentioned in the December 2017 Opinions of the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention as convicted for alleged connections with the Gülen movement had been granted repeated visits from relatives. This information indicating that the Turkmen government may be prepared to compromise in response to international criticism has yet to be confirmed by independent sources, and the number of visits by relatives cited by the authorities raises doubts.

Still another group of Muslim prisoners is worth mentioning. In addition to the aforementioned men detained in the Ovadan Depe prison, since 2016, reports have been received from former prisoners about Muslim women held incommunicado in a separate building of a women's prison colony in Dashoguz. According to a former prisoner, five Muslim women were placed in the Dashoguz prison around the fall of 2015, and one of them died in the spring of 2016. At the moment, the number of these "special" female prisoners in Dashoguz has increased to 23. According to reports, the colony

administration has requested their transfer to the Ovadan Depe prison, but their further fate is unknown. Unfortunately, we have not been able to find out the names of these women; therefore, they are not yet included in the list.

### *Those Accused of Economic Crimes and Abuse of Power*

Twenty-six disappeared were accused of economic crimes and abuse of power. At least thirteen of the disappeared in this category have died in prison, and verifiable information confirms that they are deceased.

Starting in 2001, President Saparmurad Niyazov sanctioned several waves of Stalin-style purges which affected key government offices, ministries of economy, law enforcement and defense, and regional administrations. The heads and key officials of these government departments were often held incommunicado after their trial and sentencing. Following Niyazov's death in December 2006, many of these prisoners were transferred to regular colonies, but some others continued to be held incommunicado in total isolation from the outside world. This practice, albeit on a smaller scale, has continued during the current presidency of Gurbanguly Berdimukhamedov. A few senior officials convicted after 2006 are still held incommunicado. Since communication with families is limited and sometimes impossible, our list includes only a small number of such cases.

There is no official information available about most of the convicted senior officials.

In 2017-2018, the Turkmen authorities informed international organizations that Guychmyrad Esenov, former director of the Turkmenbashi Complex of oil refineries, was being held in a regular colony and visited by his relatives. This information has not been confirmed by independent sources.

### *Disappeared Civil Society Activists*

Two civil society activists have been included in our list of the disappeared: Omruzak Omarkuliyev and Ogulsapar Muradova, who died in prison.

Their stories highlight the extent of paranoia of the Turkmen authorities who have gone to extremes to silence what they perceive to be opposition—whether it be in the form of freedom of expression or more direct civic action.

Omarkuliyev who established a Turkmen student association in Turkey, was lured into Turkmenistan in February 2018 when the authorities invited him to participate in a preparatory event for the upcoming parliamentary elections and then prevented him from exiting the country; soon after he appealed to foreign media, he was arrested and sentenced to 20 years on trumped-up charges. This is a new disappearance added to our list. During the past year, there has been no information about his fate.

Muradova died in prison in 2006. On April 6, 2018, the UN Human Rights Committee found the Turkmen government responsible for violation of her rights, including the



rights to life, to freedom from torture, to personal integrity, to a fair trial, and to freedom of expression, and called upon the government to conduct an impartial investigation into Muradova's case and provide full redress to her family members, such as adequate compensation and other measures of satisfaction, including rehabilitation for Muradova's name.

Civic activist Gulgeldy Annaniyazov was removed from our updated list after he received visitation with relatives in March 2019. Beginning in September 2015, the authorities stated several time in international forums that Annaniyazov's relatives could visit him. However, in practice, no visitations took place. At the beginning of March 2019, after he served his full 11-year prison term, Annaniyazov was transferred from colony to a remote village of Karabogaz in north-west Turkmenistan, where he is to live under the control of the police administration for the next five years. The authorities claim that this additional punishment was a part of his initial sentence in 2008. However, in the previous years there was no mention of this in any of the official responses of the government to international organizations, including the response to the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention in 2013, to the UN Committee Against Torture in 2016, and the UN Human Rights Committee, also in 2016. Furthermore, as it turned out, the liability for the offense incriminating Annaniyazov was substantially mitigated after the adoption of the new edition of the Criminal Code in 2010; thus his prison term should have ended already in 2014. However, the authorities, as before, continue to illegally keep Annaniyazov from his family, citing the verdict that is invalid.

In March 2019 civil society activist Saparmamed Nepeskuliev, who has dual Russian and Turkmen citizenship, was able to leave Turkmenistan (<https://turkmen.news/human-rights/nepeskuliev-left-turkmenistan/>). His name was included in earlier iterations of the list. He was held incommunicado for three years and was released in May 2018 thanks to an active international campaign in his defense.

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The common threads among the 121 individuals listed in the report are:

- 1) There has been no verifiable information about whereabouts and condition of these people since their trial, and in some cases, since their arrest;
- 2) None of them has had any contact with their family, and their families have received no information about their health, circumstance, or whereabouts;
- 3) None of them has been seen by legal representation, external medical experts, or international monitoring organizations, including the International Red Cross, since they were imprisoned.

The Turkmen government knows the international community's demands. They are clear, concrete, and feasible. The solution to enforced disappearance is not to exchange limited information with international organizations behind closed doors. The solution is to ensure immediate access to prisoners by their relatives, lawyers, and independent monitors.

We demand that the government of Turkmenistan prove they are alive!

International pressure on Turkmenistan is more important now than ever. The international community must demand that Turkmenistan stop the practice of enforced disappearance; allow international observers into prisons, including the infamous Ovadan Depe; permit family visits, medical care, and legal assistance to those in prison; release all individuals in the list of the disappeared whose prison terms have ended, and comply with international human rights standards regarding enforced disappearance and torture. Strong and consistent international pressure on the government of Turkmenistan must be renewed. It should be multilateral and effectively coordinated among relevant international bodies, including the United Nations, the OSCE, and concerned states. International community must use all means available to save the lives of the disappeared.

Enforced disappearances in Turkmenistan must stop.

## **DISAPPEARED IN TURKMENISTAN'S PRISONS, CONVICTED IN THE CASE OF THE NOVEMBER 25, 2002 ALLEGED COUP ATTEMPT**

### **1. Akmammedov, Gurbangeldy Akgaevich**

Biography: Lived in Mary.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art.14-101 p. 2 s. "a," "b," "f," "g," "h," "i," "l"; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 235 p. 2 s. "a," "b"; 254 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the Criminal Code of Turkmenistan (CCT). Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and further settlement in a designated area for 5 years.

Current situation: No information.

### **2. Akmuradov, Annageldy Ovezmuradovich**

Biography: Not available.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art.14-101 p. 2 s. "a," "b," "f," "g," "h," "i," "l"; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 235 p. 2 s. "a," "b"; 254 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 2; 275 p. 2; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 17 years of imprisonment (3 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and further settlement in a designated area for 5 years.

Current situation: No information. His term will end in the fall of 2019.

### **3. Annageldyev, Djumamuhammet Durdyevich**

Biography: Not available.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. "a," "b," "f," "g," "h," "i," "l"; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 235 p. 2 s. "a," "b"; 254 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and further settlement in a designated area for 5 years.

Current situation: No information. According to an unconfirmed report, in 2005 was held in the prison in the city of Turkmenbashi.

### **4. Atanesian, Aram Shavashovich**

Biography: An ethnic Armenian.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. "a," "b," "f," "g," "h," "i," "l"; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 235 p. 2 s. "a," "b"; 254 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 2; 275 p. 2; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment (3 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and further settlement in a designated area for 5 years.

Current situation: No information.

### **5. Babaev, Arslan Annadurdyevich**

Biography: District police officer. Lived in Ashgabat.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment (3 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and further settlement in a designated area for 5 years.

Current situation: No information.

## **6. Beknazarov, Begench Amandurdyevich**

Biography: Born in 1969 in Ashgabat. Major, deputy commander of the motorized infantry division in the city of Serdar (former Kizyl-Arvat) in Balkan Province. In 1990, graduated from the Kiev Higher Military Command School named after Frunze. Trained in the Special Forces program. After graduation served in Ukraine. In 1991 returned to Turkmenistan, served in the Army of Turkmenistan, including in the central apparatus of the Ministry of Defense. In early October 2002 was transferred to a command post in a military unit 220 km. from Ashgabat with a demotion in rank. Has dual Russian and Turkmenistani citizenship. Nephew of Aina Shikhmuradova (wife of Konstantin Shikhmuradov).



Arrest and conviction: Declared wanted on November 27, 2002 on charges of involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002, under Art. 14-101 p. 2 and 275 of the CCT. Was in hiding in Ashgabat for about 2.5 years. Arrested on May 17, 2005 in his parents' house. Was tortured. Convicted in early June 2005. Sentenced to life imprisonment. Several of his friends and co-workers were convicted with him for various prison terms. After the arrest of Begench Beknazarov, his parents, Amandurdy and Raisa Beknazarov, were evicted from Ashgabat and sent to exile in Mary Province.

Current situation: No information. There were rumors that Beknazarov was allegedly killed in prison almost immediately after his trial. According to an unconfirmed report, in 2005 he was held in prison in the city of Turkmenbashi. In another version, after the verdict, he was transferred from the pre-detention holding cell of the Ministry of National Security to Ovadan Depe prison. (<http://turkmen.news/human-rights/begench-beknazarov-turkmenistan/>).

## **7. Berdyev, Batyr Ataevich**

Biography: Born on October 3, 1960 in Ashgabat. Ex-Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan. In 1982 graduated from the Turkmen State University. Starting in 1982, worked at the newspaper *Komsomolets Turkmenistana*, moving from the position of intern to the chief editor of the newspaper (from 1987). In 1990-1992 was a correspondent in Turkmenistan for the weekly newspapers *Soyuz* and *Zhizn*. From 1992 was a consultant of the International Department of the Administration of the President of Turkmenistan. In the same year was appointed Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan. From 1994 – Charge d’Affaires of Turkmenistan to the Republic of Austria. From 1995—Ambassador of Turkmenistan to the Republic of Austria, the Slovak Republic and the Czech Republic. Simultaneously from 1995—Representative of



Turkmenistan to the OSCE. From July 4, 2000—First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. From July 28, 2000 to July 7, 2001 –Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan. Dismissed from service for “shortcomings in the work” on July 7, 2001. Lived in Ashgabat.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested on December 7, 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. The video of his “confession” was broadcast on TV on December 18, 2002. There are testimonies about his beating during his apprehension, and torture in the course of investigation. Convicted on January 21, 2003 by Ashgabat city court under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

Current situation: Relatives have no information about his fate and whereabouts after trial. There are controversial and unconfirmed testimonies about his death in prison during the time of President Niyazov. For example, according to one source (“List of 25”), Berdyev died in prison on October 10, 2004. According to another version, he perished during the first year of imprisonment. Former political prisoner Akmukhammet Bayhanov testified that after his transfer to the Ovadan Depe prison he heard from other inmates that Berdyev had died in that prison between 2003 and 2006. According to another source, Berdyev was kept in solitary confinement in Ovadan Depe, and his voice was last heard by a fellow inmate in May or June 2005. In 2007, rumors circulated that Berdyev died from a heart attack. In August 2009, an internet publication published rumors that Berdyev was killed in Ovadan Depe in December 2006, three days after the death of Niyazov. President Gurbanguly Berdimukhamedov, during a visit to Columbia University on September 24, 2007, answering a question about the fate of Boris Shikhmuradov and Batyr Berdyev, said, “I am sure that these people are still alive” (<http://www.fergananews.com/news.php?id=7191>). This has been the only public statement on the fate of Berdyev by the Turkmen authorities. During a meeting with relatives in 2012, officials stated that Berdyev was alive and that soon they will receive “good news”. However, nothing has happened since then. In 2017, the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances sent the government of Turkmenistan a communication on the case of Batyr Berdyev. No response has been received.

## **8. Berdyev, Orazmukhammet Muhyevich**

Biography: Former Lieutenant Colonel of the National Security Committee of Turkmenistan. From January 16, 2001—Deputy Chairman of the National Security Committee. On March 4, 2002, dismissed from service for “serious shortcomings in the work” with deprivation of military ranks and awards. Lived in Ashgabat.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted on January 21, 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

Current situation: No information. At the beginning of 2014 the Turkmen Initiative for Human Rights received an unconfirmed report, according to which Berdyev was being held in the AH-K/3 colony near the Ovadan Depe prison.

#### **9. Bishoev, Amirbek**

Biography: A Russian citizen, an ethnic Chechen. In May 2002 came to Turkmenistan at the invitation of Guvanch Djumaev's company.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested on November 25, 2002 in Ashgabat. Possessed documents of a Georgian citizen, Kakha Tsakashvili. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. No information on his fate is available since then.

Current situation: No information.

#### **10. Buriev, Aman Djumadurdyevich**

Biography: Born in 1958(?) in Ashgabat. Graduated from the Turkmen Agricultural Institute. An entrepreneur. Lived in Ashgabat. Elder brother of Esen Buriev.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. "a," "b," "f," "g," "h," "i," "l"; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 235 p. 2 s. "a," "b"; 254 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment (3 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and further settlement in a designated area for 5 years.

Current situation: No information. According to unconfirmed information ("List of 25"), died in custody on March 8, 2005. In 2007 relatives reported that they have no information about his fate.

#### **11. Buriev, Esen Djumadurdyevich**

Biography: Born in 1967 in Ashgabat. Graduated from the Turkmen National Economy Institute. In the 1990s, he worked with Turkmenvhesheconombank and with tax authorities. An entrepreneur. Lived in Ashgabat. Younger brother of Aman Buriev.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. "a," "b," "f," "g," "h," "i," "l"; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 235 p. 2 s. "a," "b"; 254 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 15 years of imprisonment (3 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

Current situation: No information. In 2007 relatives reported that they have no information about his fate. The prison term he was sentenced to in 2003 ended in autumn 2017.

#### **12. Gayibov, Dovlet Odaevich**

Biography: Born in 1959(?) in the Niyazov District of Lebap Province. Manager of the district oil depot. Lived in Amu-Darya village. Distant relative and fellow villager of Guvanch Djumaev.

**Arrest and conviction:** Detained in December 2002 in the Niyazov District of Lebap Province, and then transported to Ashgabat. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. The video of his “confession” was broadcast on TV on December 18, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 2; 275



p. 2; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

**Current situation:** No information. According to an unconfirmed report, in 2005 was held in the prison in the city of Turkmenbashi.

### **13. Garayev, Atamurat Nurmuradovich**

**Biography:** Lived in Ashgabat.

**Arrest and conviction:** Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment (3 years in prison, the rest in strict security colony) with confiscation of property and further settlement in a designated area for 5 years.

**Current situation:** No information. According to unconfirmed information (“List of 25”), died in custody on February 7, 2008.

### **14. Garataev, Guvandyk Isaevich**

**Biography:** Born in 1976. Lived in “Talimardjan” Association of Peasants in the Niyazov District of Lebap Province. Son of Isa Garataev. Cousin of Murat Garataev.

**Arrest and conviction:** Detained in December 2002 in the Niyazov District of Lebap Province and transported to Ashgabat. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002 (assisted in the illegal entry of Boris Shikhmuradov to Turkmenistan from Uzbekistan). Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 2; 275 p. 2; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

**Current situation:** No information.

### **15. Garataev, Isa Bektaevich**

**Biography:** Born in 1952(?). Lived in Amu-Darya village in the Niyazov District of Lebap Province. Father of Guvandyk Garataev.

**Arrest and conviction:** Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1;



275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 15 years of imprisonment (3 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

Current situation: No information. The prison term he was sentenced to in 2003 ended in autumn 2017.

#### **16. Garataev, Murat Amanovich**

Biography: Local police officer in the Niyazov District of Lebap Province. Nephew of Guvanch Djumaev. Cousin of Guvandyk Garataev. Relative of Dovlet Gayibov.

Arrest and conviction: Detained in December 2002 in the Niyazov District of Lebap Province and transported to Ashgabat. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002 (assisted in the illegal entry of Boris Shikhmuradov from Uzbekistan). Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 2; 275 p. 2; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

Current situation: No information.

#### **17. Gundogdyev, Yazgeldy Potaevich**

Biography: Born on January 31, 1956, in Dashoguz. Graduated from Turkmen Agricultural Institute. Worked as the first secretary of Dashoguz Provincial Committee of the Communist Youth Union of Turkmenistan. From July 6, 1985 to August 21, 1989—First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Youth Union of Turkmenistan. From January 18, 1986 to November 17, 1989 – candidate for membership of the Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Turkmenistan. In 1989-1991 – People’s Deputy of the Supreme Council of the USSR from the Vekil-Bazarskoy District and the Secretary of the Committee on Youth of the Supreme Council of the USSR. From October 29, 1991 to December 26, 1991—Deputy Chairman of the Council of the Republics of the Supreme Council of the USSR. From 1992--Head of the International Department of the Administration of the President of Turkmenistan. From 1994(?)—Head of the Department of State Protocol and International Relations of the Administration of the President of Turkmenistan. At the same time, from February 15, 1995—Chief Advisor to Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Boris Shikhmuradov, who oversaw foreign policy issues. On April 7, 1994, promoted to the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary. From July 23, 1997—Head of Administration of Dashoguz Province. On September 11, 2000, dismissed for “serious shortcomings in the work.”



Arrest and conviction: Arrested in the end of November 2002 in Ashgabat. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. According to a cellmate, was tortured. The video of his “confession” was broadcast on TV on December 18, 2002. Convicted on January 21, 2003 by Ashgabat city court under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218



p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

Current situation: No information. There were rumors in 2003 and in August 2005 about his death in prison. In October 2006, the human rights website, “Chronicles of Turkmenistan,” announced that Gundogdyev was released on October 20, 2006 from Ovadan Depe prison under an amnesty and sent in exile to a remote village in Dashoguz Province (<http://archive.chrono-tm.org/?id=176>). Subsequently, the website’s editor clarified that this information was not confirmed. According to former political prisoner, Akmukhammet Bayhanov, in the spring of 2007 Gundogdyev was being held in the Ovadan Depe prison. In May 2008, a relative of Gundogdyev told Amnesty International that he was still in prison (<http://www.hro.org/node/4550>). According to former political prisoner Geldy Kyarizov, in the summer of 2011 a resident of Dashoguz province told him about the death of Gundogdyev in Ovadan Depe prison in 2011 and that the body had allegedly been given to the relatives and buried in Kuneurgench region. However, the authenticity of this information is doubtful.

#### 18. Gurbanov, Bazar

Biography: Lived in Ashgabat region.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 16 years of imprisonment (3 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

Current situation: No information. In early 2013 there were rumors that he died in custody, no details were provided (“List of 25”). His term ended in the fall of 2018.

#### 19. Djumaev, Guvanch Rozyevich

Biography: Born on March 31, 1953 in Beshir village of Hodjambaz District of Lebap Province. A well-known entrepreneur. Has dual Russian and Turkmenistani citizenship. In 1988, led a horse run from Ashgabat to Moscow.



In 1999-2001 was charged with economic crimes and left for Russia as a result. During this period was in contact with the opposition living abroad. On June 2, 2001, was detained in Moscow as a person who is wanted internationally. In the same month was extradited to Turkmenistan, where he was released on amnesty a few days after he had agreed to transfer a part of his business to the government on the demand of the Ministry of National Security. Lived in Ashgabat. Son of Rozy Djumaev. Farther of Timur Djumaev. Elder brother of Chary Djumaev.

Arrest and conviction: In the evening of November 25, 2002, summoned to the Ministry of National Security and detained. Charged with involvement in the coup

attempt on November 25, 2002. Was tortured. The video of his “confession” was broadcast on TV on December 29, 2002. Convicted on January 15, 2003 by the Supreme Court of Turkmenistan under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to life imprisonment with confiscation of property (this punishment was absent in the Turkmen law).

Current situation: No information. According to an unconfirmed report, in December 2003 was held in the holding cells of the Ministry of National Security in Ashgabat, in 2005 was held in prison in Turkmenbashi. According to Turkmen Citizens’ Rights and Freedoms, an organization of Turkmen expatriates, the family has no information about Djumaev’s fate.

## **20. Djumaev, Rozy Djumaevich**

Biography: Born on March 11, 1929 in Beshir village of Hodjambaz District of Lebap Province. Retired. In Soviet times was a teacher in the Turkmen Agricultural Institute, the chief livestock specialist for the Ministry of Agriculture, until about 1985 — Head of the Department of Agriculture of the Council of Ministers of the Turkmen SSR. Lived in Choganly village on the outskirts of Ashgabat. Father of Guvanch and Chary Djumaev.

Arrest and conviction: Detained on November 26, 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. The video of his “confession” was broadcast on TV on December 4, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 2; 275 p. 2; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment (3 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and further settlement in a designated area for 5 years.

Current situation: No information. According to unconfirmed information (“List of 25”), died in custody on February 2, 2004. Former political prisoner Akmukhammet Bayhanov testified that after his transfer to Ovadan Depe prison he heard rumors about the death of Rozy Djumaev in this prison between 2003 and 2006.

## **21. Djumaev, Rustem Byashimovich**

Biography: Born on February 2, 1947, in Stalinabad (Dushanbe) in Tajikistan. From 1965-1971 studied at Azerbaijan Medical Institute in Baku. Until 1993 worked in different positions in the Ministry of Health of Tajikistan. In 1993 moved to Turkmenistan, entered army service, received the rank of Major of Medical Service, and worked in the epidemiological service of the Ministry of Defense of Turkmenistan. In 1999-2001—Managing Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan. Approximately from March until August 2001—Second Secretary of the Embassy of Turkmenistan in Belarus. Lived in Ashgabat.



Arrest and conviction: Arrested in early December 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002 (allegedly provided his apartment for an overnight stay to participants of the plot). Convicted on January 21, 2003, under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4

s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 2; 275 p. 2; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 18 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

Current situation: Relatives do not have information about his whereabouts since the end of his trial in January 2003. According to unconfirmed information (“List of 25”), died in custody on October 1, 2004. Based on another source, in 2008 his name was included in the text of the presidential decree of pardon but he was not released. In May 2016, Ministry of the Interior of Turkmenistan in its reply to an inquiry of the Prosecutor General’s Office of Tajikistan, made at the request of Djumaev’s family, stated that Rustem Djumaev “is serving his sentence in a place of deprivation of liberty.” His son who resides in Tajikistan, and has requested a visit to his father, was denied a Turkmen visa. In 2018, the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances sent the government of Turkmenistan a communication on the case of Rustem Djumaev. No response has been received.

## 22. **Djumaev, Timur Guvanchovich**

Biography: Born on April 17, 1975, in Ashgabat. Graduated from the Turkmen Institute of National Economy. Worked as a bank operator at “Vnesheconombank,” then in the corporation “Gayrat,” established by his father. Has dual Russian and Turkmenistani citizenship. Lived in Ashgabat. Son of Guvanch Djumaev.



Arrest and conviction: Detained on November 25, 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. According to a cellmate, was tortured. The video of his “confession” was broadcast on TV on December 4, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 2; 275 p. 2; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

Current situation: No information. According to unconfirmed information (“List of 25”), died in custody on October 27, 2006. According to one version, in 2005 was held in prison in the city of Turkmenbashi. Former political prisoner Akmukhammet Bayhanov testified that he learned about the death of Timur Djumaev in Ovadan Depe prison between 2003 and 2006.

## 23. **Dovletov, Rovshen Dzhorageldyevich**

Biography: Born in approximately 1968-69 in Ashgabat. Commercial director of Guvanch Djumaev’s company, his relative and confidant. Lived in Ashgabat.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested on December 9, 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment (5 years in

prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and further settlement in a designated area for 5 years.

Current situation: No information.

#### **24. Durdyklychev, Djumageldy Allaberdyevich**

Biography: An employee at the district oil depot. Lived in Amu-Darya village of Niyazov District of Lebap Province.

Arrest and conviction: Detained in December 2002 in Niyazov District of Lebap Province and transported to Ashgabat. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 2; 275 p. 2; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and further settlement in a designated area for 5 years.

Current situation: No information.

#### **25. Ilamanov, Soltan Ereshovich**

Biography: Born in 1979 in Mary Province. Relative of Nurmukhammet Orazgeldyev.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested at the end of November 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. According to a cellmate was beaten and tortured by electric current. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 2; 275 p. 2; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and further settlement in a designated area for 5 years.

Current situation: No information. In February 2003 he was transferred from the MNB pre-trial detention center (SIZO) to Ovadan Depe prison.



#### **26. Kurbanov, Iskander Ereshovich**

Biography: Born in 1954-1955 in Iskander settlement of Balkan District. Graduated from Turkmen State University. From approximately 1995-1997–Deputy Head of Department of the Committee on National Security of the Balkan Province. Lost an eye in car accident. Since 1998 served in the central apparatus of the Committee/Ministry on National Security. Colonel, Head of 3rd Department (for Protection of the Constitutional order) of MNS. Lived in Ashgabat.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in April 2003. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in May 2003 by the Supreme Court of Turkmenistan. Sentenced to a long prison term (according to different sources from 12-14 to 19 years).

Current situation: No information. According to unconfirmed reports, after the trial, was kept in prison in the city of Turkmenbashi; according to another version, was held in Ovadan Depe prison in 2003, and according to a third version in December 2003 in the detention center of the Ministry of National Security in Ashgabat. At the beginning of 2014, the Turkmen Initiative for Human Rights received unconfirmed information that Kurbanov was being held in the AH-K/3 colony near Ovadan Depe prison. In 2015, there were rumors in Ashgabat about his death in prison (date unknown).

**27. Lyaskin, Yuriy Gennad'evich**

Biography: Born in 1966(?). Major, radio-communications specialist of the Ministry of Defense of Turkmenistan.

Arrest and conviction: Declared wanted in late November 2002. Arrested in early December 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. "a," "b," "f," "g," "h," "i," "l"; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 235 p. 2 s. "a," "b"; 254 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and further settlement in a designated area for 5 years.



Ляскин Юрий

Current situation: No information. According to unconfirmed information ("List of 25"), died in custody on February 14, 2004.

**28. Mukhammedov, Saparmurat Djumageldyevich**

Biography: Not available.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. "a," "b," "f," "g," "h," "i," "l"; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 235 p. 2 s. "a," "b"; 254 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 18 years of imprisonment (3 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

Current situation: No information.

**29. Novozhilov, Vladislav Stanislavovich**

Biography: Not available.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. "a," "b," "f," "g," "h," "i," "l"; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 235 p. 2 s. "a," "b"; 254 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 2; 275 p. 2; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment (3 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and further settlement in a designated area for 5 years.

Current situation: No information.

**30. Nuraliev, Magomet Saidakhmetovich**

Biography: Born in 1971 in Russia. A Russian citizen, an ethnic Chechen. In May 2002 came to Turkmenistan at the invitation of Guvanch Djumaev's company.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested on November 25, 2002 in Ashgabat. Possessed documents of a Georgian citizen, Merab Puhauri. Allegedly, Russia made a request for his extradition for his previous involvement in "bloody crimes." Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. His further fate is unknown.





Current situation: No information. According to unconfirmed information (“List of 25”), he was not extradited to Russia and died in custody on November 20, 2004.

### 31. Nurgeldyev, Redzhepgeldy

Biography: Director of a department in “Turkmenburgaz” company in the Shatlyk village in Mary Province. Friend and fellow villager of Nurmukhammet Orazgeldyev.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in December 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002 (assisted in the travel of Boris Shikhmuradov from Lebap Province to Ashgabat). Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 22 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

Current situation: No information.

### 32. Orazgeldyev, Nurmukhammet

Biography: Born in 1956 in Mary province. An entrepreneur. Until mid-1990s worked in KGB/National Security Committee, thereafter until the end of 1990s in the Ministry of Defense of Turkmenistan. Held a military rank of Major. Former vice-president of the football club “Nisa.” Lived in Ashgabat. Friend and fellow villager of Redjhepgeldy Nurgeldyev.



Arrest and conviction: Declared wanted in late November 2002. Arrested by an army patrolman on December 14, 2002 at a bus station in the town of Mary, dressed in women’s clothes. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. The video of his “confession” was broadcast on TV on December 18, 2002. Convicted on January 15, 2003, by the Supreme Court of Turkmenistan under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to life imprisonment with confiscation of property (this punishment was absent in the Turkmen law).

Current situation: No information. According to an unconfirmed report, in December 2003 was held in a detention center of the Ministry of National Security in Ashgabat, and in 2005 was held in prison in Turkmenbashi.

### 33. **Rakhimov, Serdar Seyitmuradovich**

Biography: Born on March 3, 1951 in Hodjambaz District of Lebap Province. Leader of the unregistered Communist Party of Turkmenistan. Has dual Russian and Turkmenistani citizenship (since December 1, 1998). Candidate of History (1985). In 1973, graduated from the Department of Journalism of the Moscow State University, and in 1985 received his graduate degree at the Tashkent Higher Party School. From 1973, worked as a journalist in Lebap Province. From 1979 – instructor, and head of the sector of the Department of Propaganda and Agitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Turkmenistan. From 1986 – First Deputy Chairman, from September 1987 to August 20 1990 – Chair of the State Committee of the Turkmen SSR for television and radio. From May 12, 1990 to 1991 – member of the Central Committee and Bureau of the Central Committee, secretary, Chair of the Ideological Commission of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Turkmenia. After 1992 worked at the Society for Friendship with Foreign Countries. From January 6 1995–Advisor-messenger to the Embassy of Turkmenistan in Pakistan. Upon returning to Turkmenistan after about two years, worked in various commercial companies. Actively participated in the restoration of the Communist Party of Turkmenistan and relations between the Communist Parties of Russia and Turkmenistan. Lived in Ashgabat.



Arrest and conviction: Detained by police for three days in end of November 2002 and then released. Detained again by MNB officers on December 1, 2002 (according to another report, was in custody on December 2-4, 2002, detained again on December 5, 2002). Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. The video of his “confession” was broadcast on TV on December 18, 2002. Convicted on January 18(?), 2003, under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years in imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release. On December 20, 2002, the Supreme Council for Science and Technology under the President of Turkmenistan stripped Rakhimov of his degree of candidate of science in history.

Current situation: No information. According to various unofficial sources in June 2003 he was transferred from the pre-trial detention center to Ovadan Depe prison. In 2007-2015, was kept in this prison without the right to correspondence and visitation. On July 21, 2007 Ambassador of Turkmenistan to Russia, Khalnazar Agakhanov, replied to an inquiry by the Russian communists stating the “issue of amnesty for S.S. Rakhimov will be submitted for a review by a special commission.” Further appeals to the authorities on the fate of Serdar Rakhimov have been left unanswered. The family’s six requests to be allowed visits, correspondence, and sending parcels to the prisoner were also unanswered. In 2018, the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances sent the government of Turkmenistan a communication on the case of Serdar Rakhimov. No response has been received.

### 34. Reimov, Dzhora Behremovich

Biography: Graduated from the Philological Department of Tomsk State University in Russia. Lieutenant Colonel of the MNS (worked in the Internal Security Division). Lived in Ashgabat.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. "a," "b," "f," "g," "h," "i," "l"; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 235 p. 2 s. "a," "b"; 254 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 2; 275 p. 2; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment (3 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and further settlement in a designated area for 5 years.

Current situation: No information.

### 35. Sadullaev, Ruslan Saidovich

Biography: A Russian citizen, an ethnic Chechen. In May 2002 came to Turkmenistan at the invitation of Guvanch Djumaev's company.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested on November 25, 2002 in Ashgabat. Possessed documents of a Georgian citizen, Zaza Legushaidze. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. His further fate is unknown.

Current situation: No information.



### 36. Safarov, Honsait Sagatovich

Biography: Born in 1976 in Uzbekistan. Secretary of a local self-government council. An Uzbekistani citizen. Lived in the Tallimarzhon city in Nishon District of Qashqadaryo Province of Uzbekistan.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in December 2002. According to one version, kidnapped by Turkmen special services on the territory of Uzbekistan; according to another – detained in Turkmenistan. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002 (allegedly assisted in the illegal entry of Boris Shikhmuradov from Uzbekistan). The video of his "confession" was broadcast on TV on December 18, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art.14-101 p. 2 s. "a," "b," "f," "g," "h," "i," "l"; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 235 p. 2 s. "a," "b"; 254 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 2; 275 p. 2; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property.

Current situation: No information.

### 37. Khatamov, Amangeldy Akhmedovich

Biography: Born in 1961 in Ashgabat. In 1983 graduated from Turkmen Agricultural Institute. Worked until the early 1990s for the police, thereafter processed vegetable produce. Lived in Ashgabat. Younger brother of Annamurad Khatamov.

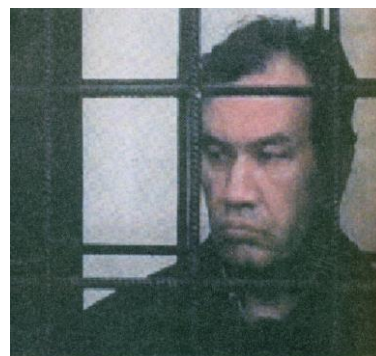
Arrest and conviction: Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. "a," "b," "f," "g," "h," "i," "l"; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 235 p. 2 s. "a," "b"; 254 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and further settlement in a designated area for 5 years.



Current situation: No information. In the beginning of 2015, there were rumors that he was transferred from Ovadan Depe prison to the colony in Bayram-Ali. According to an unconfirmed report, in spring 2017 was being held in the colony in Tejen.

**38. Khatamov, Annamurad Akhmedovich**

Biography: Born on January 14, 1954 in Mary Province. Graduated from Turkmen Agricultural Institute. Chief Engineer of the Research Institute Turkmensuvdesga (Turkmenistan water management design organization). Lived in Ashgabat. Elder brother of Amangeldy Khatamov and a close friend of Guvanch Djumaev.



Arrest and conviction: Arrested in December 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. The video of his “confession” was broadcast on TV on December 18, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 2; 275 p. 2; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

Current situation: No information. In the beginning of 2015 there were rumors that he had been transferred from Ovadan Depe prison to the colony in Bayram-Ali. According to an unconfirmed report, in spring 2017 was being held in colony in Tejen.

**39. Khatamov, Paltakgul Achilovich**

Biography: Lived in Amu-Darya village in Niyazov District of Lebap Province. Older brother of Dovlet Gayibov’s driver.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in December 2002 in Niyazov District of Lebap Province, and then transported to Ashgabat. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 2; 275 p. 2; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

Current situation: No information. According to unconfirmed information (“List of 25”), died in custody on April 24, 2005.

**40. Khemraev, Nepes Hemraevich**

Biography: Distant relative of Guvanch Djumaev.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested on the evening of November 25, 2002 at the apartment of Chary Djumaev. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (3 years in prison, the rest in a strict

security colony) with confiscation of property and further settlement in a designated area for 5 years.

Current situation: No information. According to unconfirmed information (“List of 25”), died in custody on November 11, 2006.

#### **41. Khommaev, Suleiman Bairamovich**

Biography: Not available.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 2; 275 p. 2; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and further settlement in a designated area for 5 years.

Current situation: No information.

#### **42. Charyyarov, Serdar Meredmuhamedovich**

Biography: Before March 14, 2002—Commander of the Air Force and Air Defense troops of Turkmenistan. Simultaneously, from July 3, 1996, and from June 18, 2001—Deputy Minister of Defense. From March 14, 2002—First Deputy Minister of Defense—Chief of the General Staff, Commander of the Air Force of Turkmenistan. On May 26, 2003, let go from his responsibilities for “serious shortcomings in his work.” Lieutenant-General.

Arrest and conviction: On May 26, 2003, at the meeting in the Ministry of Defense with the participation of President Niyazov, Charyyarov was publicly charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002, illegal arms sales in 1994, and stealing military property. On the same day, he was dismissed “for serious shortcomings in the work.” A special commission headed by the Prosecutor General was charged with checking whether the charges had grounds within 25 days (<http://www.turkmenistan.ru/ru/node/14857>). The results of the work of this commission are unknown. The US State Department’s Report on Human Rights in the World in 2003 said that Charyyarov was arrested on the same day. On May 29, 2003, *Deutsche Welle* reported that he was placed under house arrest and that in addition, five Air Force officers who were close to him, suspected of abuse of authority and theft of state property, were also arrested (<http://p.dw.com/p/3hFn>). His further fate is unknown. According to an unconfirmed report, he was “sent to prison with his family” (<http://www.polit.ru/news/2010/09/13/turkmen>).

Current situation: No information.

#### **43. Shagalov, Vepa Gurbandurdyevich**

Biography: Not available.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

Current situation: No information.

44. **Shikhmuradov, Boris Orazovich**

Biography: Born May 25, 1949 in Ashgabat. Graduated from the Department of Journalism of Moscow State University in 1971. From 1983 to 1986, studied at the Diplomatic



Academy of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the USSR. Between 1971 and 1992, held journalistic and diplomatic positions at the *Novosti* Information Agency and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR. Worked in Pakistan and India. Since the beginning of 1992, worked for *Novosti* Russian Information Agency in India. In May 1992, recalled by the government of Turkmenistan. From May 21, 1992—Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan. From July 6, 1992—First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. From January 7, 1993—Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan (responsible for science, education, health and foreign policy; and from March 1994 – for issues of foreign affairs, armed forces and law enforcement agencies.) Between 1994 and March 1995, he was also simultaneously the Chairman of the State Commission on logistics of the defense complex of Turkmenistan and Deputy Chairman of the Council of the Defense and National Security of Turkmenistan. From January 6, 1995—Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan. From January 8, 1999—Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan. From July 28, 2000—Ambassador-at-large, Special Representative of the President for Caspian issues and settlement in Afghanistan. At the same time—Rector of the National Institute of Sports and Tourism of Turkmenistan and President of the National Olympic Committee. From March 11, 2001, to October 30, 2001—Ambassador to the People’s Republic of China. From 1999 to early 2001, Mr. Shikhmuradov repeatedly asked to resign. In 2001, a criminal case was opened against him with charges of doing damage to the state for more than US \$30 million from illegal sales of arms and financial violations in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. On October 11, 2001, he flew to Moscow, where on November 1, 2001, he announced the creation of an opposition People’s Democratic Movement of Turkmenistan. In November 2001, he went to Turkey where he stayed for a year. In November 2002, he flew from Istanbul to Uzbekistan, from where he illegally entered Lebap Province of Turkmenistan, and then arrived in Ashgabat. Has Russian and possibly Turkmenistani citizenship. Elder brother of Konstantin Shikhmuradov.

Arrest and conviction: Declared wanted in late November 2002. Hiding in Ashgabat for about a month. Arrested on December 25, 2002. Charged with organizing the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. The video of his “confession” was broadcast on TV on December 29, 2002. Subjected to torture. Had only one meeting with his lawyer, Victoria Bagdasaryan, before the trial. The indictment was handed down on December 27, 2002, and written in the Turkmen language, which neither Shikhmuradov nor Bagdasaryan spoke. Convicted on December 29, 2002, by the Supreme Court of Turkmenistan under Art.14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 181 p. 2; 182 p. 2 s. “d”; 187; 195 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 229 p. 4 s. “a”; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 242 p. 2 s. “b,” “c”; 254 p. 3, p. 4 s. “a,” “b,” “c”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 2 (3?); 291 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after

release. The lawyer refused to see family members after the trial. On December 30, 2002, by a unanimous decision of the People's Council (Halk Maslahaty), the then highest legislative body in Turkmenistan, Boris Shikhmuradov was sentenced to life imprisonment (this punishment was absent in the Turkmen law).

*Current situation:* Until the middle or end of 2003, he was held in isolation in a detention center of MNS in Ashgabat. Further information about his fate is unavailable. According to an unconfirmed report, in 2005 he was held in the prison in the city of Turkmenbashi. There have been repeated rumors about his death in custody; however, there is no reliable information available. Thus, in May 2009 Amnesty International referred to unconfirmed information about death of Boris Shikhmuradov. In August 2009, an article in the "Gara kurt" blog reported on rumors that Boris Shikhmuradov was killed in Ovadan Depe prison three days after the death of Niyazov in December 2006. According to another version, he died in Ovadan Depe in December 2006, not long before the death of Niyazov. President Berdymukhamedov, during a visit to Columbia University on September 24, 2007, answering a question about the fate of Boris Shikhmuradov and Batyr Berdyev, said, "I am sure that these people are still alive" (<http://www.fergananews.com/news.php?id=7191>). This has been the only public statement on the fate of Boris Shikhmuradov by the Turkmen authorities. In 2009, the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances sent the government of Turkmenistan a communication on the case of Boris Shikhmuradov. No response has been received.

On October 17, 2014, the UN Human Rights Committee issued its view regarding violation of the rights of Boris Shikhmuradov, having reviewed a complaint filed by his wife, Tatiana Shikhmuradova. The Committee determined that Shikhmuradov is the victim of an enforced disappearance and that the government of Turkmenistan violated his rights to be free from torture, to personal integrity, and to a fair trial. The Committee found the Turkmen government in violation of the right to be free from torture with regard to Tatiana Shikhmuradova, who endured anguish and suffering as a result of having no information about her husband for a long time. The Committee also found the Turkmen government to be under an obligation to provide Shikhmuradov with an effective remedy including by releasing him immediately or, in the event that he was deceased, handing over his remains to his family; conducting a thorough and effective investigation into his detention, disappearance and unfair trial; providing the author of the complaint with detailed information on the results of the investigation; punishing those responsible for the violations committed; and providing adequate compensation to Shikhmuradov and the author of the complaint for the violations suffered. Regrettably, neither the UN Committee nor Shikhmuradov's family have received any response from the government of Turkmenistan, in violation of the Committee's procedures.

#### **45. Shikhmuradov, Konstantin Orazovich**

*Biography:* Born on June 4, 1951. An entrepreneur. Has dual Russian and Turkmenistani citizenship. Lived in Ashgabat. Younger brother of Boris Shikhmuradov.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on December 7, 2002, initially on charges of extortion and fraud. A few days later charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted on January 21, 2003 by the Ashgabat City Court under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. "a," "b," "f," "g," "h," "i," "l"; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 228 p. 4; 231 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 235 p. 2 s.



“a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 17 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

His wife Aina Shikhmuradova, b. 1954, and his son Aman Shikhmuradov, b. 1988, were convicted on June 27, 2007 by the Chandybil district court of Ashgabat on charges of bribery and forging documents (passing over US \$160 and documents to an instructor of a driving school for his assistance in receiving a certificate of completion of driving courses by Aman); sentenced to 3 years of imprisonment, and arrested in the courtroom. Released on amnesty on September 29, 2007.

Current situation: No information. There is unconfirmed information about his detention in Ovadan Depe prison after 2006. In approximately 2013, he was able to transfer a note from prison (<http://centre1.com/turkmenistan/boris-shihmuradov-bez-vesti-propavshij-v-turkmenskoj-tyurme/>). In February 2018, a source of the RFE/RL’s Turkmen Service reported having seen Konstantin Shikhmuradov in August 2016 in the town of Garabogaz (Bekdash), where Shikhmuradov had allegedly been living in a settlement for 15 years (<http://rus.azathabar.com/a/29067778.html>). However, due to obviously implausible details, this report was rejected as disinformation spread by Turkmenistan’s special services (see <http://rus.azathabar.com/a/29082760.html> for a discussion). His term will end in the fall of 2019.

#### **46. Yklymov, Amanmukhammet Bagshievich**

Biography: Born on November 23, 1948, in Dargan-Ata District of Lebap Province. Graduated from the Department of History of Turkmen State University (by correspondence). An entrepreneur. Lived in Ashgabat. Brother of Orazmammet, Parahat, Saparmurat, and Yklym Yklymov.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested on November 25, 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Subjected to torture. The video of his “confession” was broadcast on TV on December 4, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 2; 275 p. 2; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release. His brothers Parahat Yklymov and Saparmurat Yklymov, who live in exile in Sweden, were declared wanted in the same criminal case.

Current situation: No information. There was unconfirmed information about his death in custody in March 2003. (<http://www.dw.com/ru/аманмухаммед-ыклымов-скончался-в-туркменской-тюрьме/a-955293>). According to another version, he died in the detention center of the Ministry of National Security in the beginning of 2003. (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q8LQhDM-MYY>).





#### 47. Yklymov, Orazmammet Bagshievich

**Biography:** Born on July 12, 1950, in Dargan-Ata District of Lebap Province. Graduated from the Economics Department of Turkmen State University. In Soviet times, lived in the Smolensk Province of Russia, where he worked in the field of trade. During the *perestroika* period, returned to Turkmenistan and worked in the Ministry of Commerce (last position – Head of the State Trade Inspection). Later engaged in business. Has dual Russian and Turkmenistani citizenship. Lived in Ashgabat. Brother of Amanmukhammet, Parahat, Saparmurat, and Yklym Yklymov.



**Arrest and conviction:** Arrested on November 25, 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted on January 18, 2003 by the Supreme Court of Turkmenistan under Art.14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 2; 275 p. 2; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 19 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release. His brothers Parahat Yklymov and Saparmurat Yklymov, who live in exile in Sweden, were declared wanted in the same criminal case.

**Current situation:** No information. According to unconfirmed information (“List of 25”), died in custody on January 31, 2007.

#### 48. Yklymov, Yklym Bagshievich

**Biography:** Born on January 8, 1955, in Takhtabazar District of Mary Province. Graduated from the Law Department of Turkmen State University. Worked in the district and provincial committees of the Communist Youth Union of the Turkmen SSR in Ashgabat, later in the



Central Committee, trade unions, and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Turkmenistan. From 1982 served for about 10 years as the head of a department at the Ministry of Justice. In 1991, gave an interview to *Dayanch* (first Turkmen opposition magazine), in which he called into question the legitimacy of the election of President Niyazov. Since approximately 1991-92 worked in private business. An entrepreneur and owner of the “Turkmenodzhak” company. Has dual Russian and Turkmenistani citizenship. Lived in Ashgabat. Brother of Amanmukhammet, Orazmammet, Parahat, and Saparmurat Yklymov.

**Arrest and conviction:** Declared wanted in late November 2002. Was in hiding in Ashgabat for about a month. Arrested on December 23, 2002. The video of his “confession” was broadcast on TV on December 29, 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 by the Supreme Court of Turkmenistan under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to life imprisonment with confiscation of property (this punishment was absent in the

Turkmen law). His brothers Parahat Yklymov and Saparmurat Yklymov, who live in exile in Sweden, were declared wanted in the same criminal case.

Current situation: No information. In March 2003, there were rumors that he suffered from a mental disorder after enduring torture. According to an unconfirmed report, in December 2003 was held in the detention center of the Ministry of National Security in Ashgabat, and in 2005 was held in prison in Turkmenbashi.

#### 49. **Yazmuradov, Ovezmurat**

Biography: Born in 1946 in Chohatta village in Halach District of Lebap Province. In 1971 graduated from the Turkmen Philology Department of the Turkmen State University. For about 20 years worked as a journalist, first at an Ashgabat district newspaper, and then in the newspaper *Oktyabr Yalkymy* in Ashgabat Province. Member of the Union of Journalists of the USSR. Approximately in 1991 became a teacher. Worked as a deputy director at the pedagogical college named after Aman Kekilov in Ashgabat. Lived in Ashgabat. Father of Timur Djumaev's wife.



Arrest and conviction: Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. "a," "b," "f," "g," "h," "i," "l"; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 235 p. 2 s. "a," "b"; 254 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 19 years of imprisonment (3 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and further settlement in a designated area for 5 years.

Current situation: As of 2014, his relatives had no information about his fate and whereabouts. According to unconfirmed information ("List of 25"), died in custody on April 3, 2004.





## DISAPPEARED IN TURKMENISTAN'S PRISONS, CONVICTED IN CASES OF "ISLAMIC EXTREMISM"

### 50. Atabaev, Ruslan Borisovich

*Biography:* Born in 1987 in Dashoguz. Graduated from a local Turkmen-Turkish school. In approximately 2002-2003 studied at St. Petersburg State University of Telecommunications and thereafter at St. Petersburg State Forest Technical Academy. In summer 2010, after finishing his studies, returned to Turkmenistan. In 2011-2012 served in the army. Was identified as "Wahhabi" in operations conducted by security police. Lived in Dashoguz.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested in August 2014. According to friends, ammunition was planted during his detention. Convicted in 2012. Sentenced to 3.5 years of imprisonment. Later the term of imprisonment was increased (details are unknown).

*Current situation:* No information.



### 51. Atajanov, Adylbek Erkinovich

*Biography:* Participated in informal studies on Islam conducted by Bakhram Saparov. Lived in Lebap Province.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on March 9, 2013. Charged with involvement in anti-state activities (conspiracy to take power, etc.). Subjected to torture (<http://habartm.org/archives/6290>). Convicted on May 22, 2013, by Lebap province court under Art. 174 p. 1; 175 p. 2; 177 p. 3; 275 p. 1, 2; 279 p. 2 s. "a," "b"; 287 p. 2; 14-291 of the CCT. Sentenced to a long prison term.

*Current situation:* No information. At the end of 2014, was held in Ovadan Depe prison. ([http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=2218](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2218)).



### 52. Atdaev, Annamurad Nurmuhammedovich

*Biography:* Born on July 17, 1986, in Arzuv village of Gyavers District of Ahal Province. Master of Sports in freestyle wrestling. In 2008-2009 he studied at the Department of Law of the Grodno State University in Belarus. Then moved to Cairo (Egypt), where he graduated from the "Fajr" school of Arabic language and then entered the University of Al-Azhar. At the beginning of March 2016, he was forced to return to Turkmenistan to re-issue his passport. After his return, repeatedly interrogated by the Ministry of National Security, whose employees suggested that he cooperate with them as an agent. He was denied travel outside the country, and an invitation for his family, who are in Russia, was also denied. Lived in Ashgabat.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on September 27, 2016 on charges of administrative offense (minor hooliganism). Later charged with criminal involvement in



an extremist Islamic group. Convicted on December 13, 2016, by Ashgabat city court under Art. 174 p. 1; 175 p. 2; 177 p. 1; 275 p. 1 of the CCT. Sentenced to 15 years of imprisonment in a strict security colony.

**Current situation:** According to unofficial information, at the end of January 2017 he was transferred to the colony in Tejen, and two days later was transferred from there to Ovadan Depe prison. Inquiries by his wife, a citizen of Russia living outside of Turkmenistan, to the Ministry of Interior and the Prosecutor General's Office of Turkmenistan in April 2017 about the whereabouts of her husband and the possibility to visit him were left unanswered. In April 2017 rumors circulated in Ashgabat that Atdaev was held in solitary confinement in Ovadan Depe prison. According to information from the government of Turkmenistan provided to the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances in May 2017, Atdaev was held in the colony MR-K/16 in Tejen; however, during his relatives' visit to the colony on October 16, 2017, this information has turned out to be inaccurate. In June and October 2017 in response to a request from the Russian embassy, the authorities reported that Atdaev "is in a place of confinement" (without any details). In early December 2017, a source reported that Atdaev's mother and brother had allegedly been provided a meeting with him in Ashgabat, where he was brought to from the Ovadan Depe prison. However, this information has not been officially confirmed. In June 2018, the Turkmen government reported that Atdaev had received one food parcel from his relatives. In July 2018, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan informed the Russian Embassy that Atdaev was held in the Ovadan-Depe prison (AN-T/2). In April 2018, Daria Atdaeva applied to the Consular Department of the Embassy of Turkmenistan in Russia for a visa to visit her husband. Her visa was denied. On September 21, 2018 the Embassy of Turkmenistan in the Russian Federation informed her that Atdaev "was deprived of the right to another short-term meeting for violation of the internal rules of the correctional institution."

### **53. Bebitov, Sultan Akhmedovich**

**Biography:** Born in 1990. After the end of military service in the airborne battalion of the Turkmen army became interested in Islam, distributed religious materials through social networks (<http://habartm.org/archives/6290>). Participated in informal studies on Islam, conducted by Bahram Saparov. Lived in in Turkmenabad city of Lebap Province.

**Arrest and conviction:** Arrested on March 9, 2013. Charged with involvement in anti-state activities (conspiracy to take power, etc.). Convicted on May 22, 2013, by Lebap province court under Art. 174 p. 1; 175 p. 2; 177 p. 3; 275 p. 1, 2; 279 p. 2 s. "a," "b"; 14-291 of the CCT. Sentenced to a long prison term. According to *Alternative Turkmenistan News*, the sentence was later tightened. The new verdict provides for serving the first five years of imprisonment in a prison regime (<http://habartm.org/archives/8225>).

**Current situation:** No information. He was imprisoned in the colonies LB-K/12 and LB-K/11, from which, following an increase to his sentence, he was transferred to Ovadan Depe prison, where he was held incommunicado. In December 2017, *Alternative Turkmenistan News* reported that, according to unverified information, several weeks earlier, Bebitov had been allowed a visit with his relatives in Ovadan Depe (<http://habartm.org/archives/8225>).



**54. Gazakbayev, Guvanch Saparmyradovich**

*Biography:* Born on July 18, 1983, in Deryalyk rural district of Konye-Urgench District of Dashoguz Province. Lived in the town of Anau in Ak Bugday District of Ahal Province.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on November 1, 2016. Charged with involvement in the international religious movement created by the Turkish preacher Fethullah Gülen. Convicted on February 8, 2017, by Ashgabat city court under Art. 177 p. 3; 275 p. 2; 275.1 p. 2 of the CCT. Sentenced to 12 years of imprisonment in a strict security colony with confiscation of property and prohibited from teaching for 3 years after release.

*Current situation:* No information. According to an unconfirmed report, Gazakbayev is currently held incommunicado in the Ovadan-Depe prison. In December 2017, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention released an advance version of its opinion on a group case, according to which the deprivation of liberty of 18 people, including Gazakbayev, was arbitrary and in contravention of international law. The Working Group requested the government to bring the situation of these individuals into conformity with the standards and principles set forth in international norms by releasing them immediately and according each one of them an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, conducting investigation into the violation of their rights, and taking other steps. ([http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A\\_HRC\\_WG\\_AD\\_2017\\_70\\_EN.docx](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A_HRC_WG_AD_2017_70_EN.docx)).

**55. Godekov, Gurbanmuhammet Dovletmyradovich**

*Biography:* Born on September 11, 1983 in the town of Tejen in Ahal Province. Worked as a teacher of English at the training center of the Yshyk Cheshmesi economic association in Tejen. Lived in Tejen.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on September 20, 2016. Charged with involvement in the international religious movement created by the Turkish preacher Fethullah Gülen. Convicted on February 8, 2017, by Ashgabat city court under Art. 177 p. 3; 275 p. 2; 275.1 p. 2 of the CCT. Sentenced to 12 years of imprisonment in a strict security colony with confiscation of property and prohibited from teaching for 3 years after release.

*Current situation:* No information. According to an unconfirmed report, Godekov is currently held incommunicado in the Ovadan Depe prison. In December 2017, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention released an advance version of its opinion on a group case, according to which the deprivation of liberty of 18 people, including Godekov, was arbitrary and in contravention of international law. The Working Group requested the government to bring the situation of these individuals into conformity with the standards and principles set forth in international norms by releasing them immediately and according each one of them an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, conducting investigation into the violation of their rights, and taking other steps. ([http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A\\_HRC\\_WG\\_AD\\_2017\\_70\\_EN.docx](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A_HRC_WG_AD_2017_70_EN.docx)).

**56. Godekov, Mekan Shamuhammedovich**

*Biography:* Born on December 23, 1984, in Dushak settlement in Kaka District of Ahal Province. Worked as a teacher of mathematics at Secondary School No. 11 in Tejen. Lived in Tejen.

**Arrest and conviction:** Arrested on October 18, 2016. Charged with involvement in the international religious movement created by the Turkish preacher Fethullah Gülen. Convicted on February 8, 2017, by Ashgabat city court under Art. 177 p. 3; 275 p. 2; 275.1 p. 2 of the CCT. Sentenced to 12 years of imprisonment in a strict security colony with confiscation of property and prohibited from teaching for 3 years after release.

**Current situation:** No information. According to an unconfirmed report, Godekov is currently held incommunicado in the Ovadan Depe prison. In December 2017, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention released an advance version of its opinion on a group case, according to which the deprivation of liberty of 18 people, including Godekov, was arbitrary and in contravention of international law. The Working Group requested the government to bring the situation of these individuals into conformity with the standards and principles set forth in international norms by releasing them immediately and according each one of them an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, conducting investigation into the violation of their rights, and taking other steps.  
([http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A\\_HRC\\_WG\\_AD\\_2017\\_70\\_EN.docx](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A_HRC_WG_AD_2017_70_EN.docx)).

#### **57. Gylychdurdyev, Merdan Bayrammyradovich**

**Biography:** Born on May 27, 1985, in Garavekil village of Babadayhan District of Ahal Province. Lived in the town of Anau in Ak Bugday District of Ahal Province.

**Arrest and conviction:** Arrested on October 21, 2016. Charged with involvement in the international religious movement created by the Turkish preacher Fethullah Gülen. Convicted on February 8, 2017 by Ashgabat city court under Art. 177 p. 3; 275 p. 2; 275.1 p. 2 of the CCT. Sentenced to 12 years of imprisonment in a strict security colony with confiscation of property and prohibited from teaching for 3 years after release.

**Current situation:** No information. According to an unconfirmed report, Gylychdurdyev is currently held incommunicado in the Ovadan Depe prison. In December 2017, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention released an advanced version of its opinion on a group case, according to which the deprivation of liberty of 18 people, including Gylychdurdyev, was arbitrary and in contravention of international law. The Working Group requested the government to bring the situation of these individuals into conformity with the standards and principles set forth in international norms by releasing them immediately and according each one of them an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, conducting investigation into the violation of their rights, and taking other steps.  
([http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A\\_HRC\\_WG\\_AD\\_2017\\_70\\_EN.docx](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A_HRC_WG_AD_2017_70_EN.docx)).

#### **58. Durdygylyjov, Shatlyk Durdygylyjovich**

**Biography:** Born on September 13, 1981, in Kemin rural district of Turkmenkala District of Mary Province. Lived in Kemin rural district of Turkmenkala District of Mary Province.

**Arrest and conviction:** Arrested on October 5, 2016. Charged with involvement in the international religious movement created by the Turkish preacher Fethullah Gülen. Convicted on February 8, 2017, by Ashgabat city court under Art. 177 p. 3; 275 p. 2; 275.1 p. 2 of the CCT. Sentenced to 12 years of imprisonment in a strict security colony with confiscation of property and prohibited from teaching for 3 years after release.

**Current situation:** No information. According to an unconfirmed report, Durdygylyjov is currently held incommunicado in the Ovadan-Depe prison. In December



2017, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention released an advance version of its opinion on a group case, according to which the deprivation of liberty of 18 people, including Durdygylyjov, was arbitrary and in contravention of international law. The Working Group requested the government to bring the situation of these individuals into conformity with the standards and principles set forth in international norms by releasing them immediately and according each one of them an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, conducting investigation into the violation of their rights, and taking other steps. ([http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A\\_HRC\\_WG\\_AD\\_2017\\_70\\_EN.docx](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A_HRC_WG_AD_2017_70_EN.docx)).

**59. Iskanderov, Matyakub**

*Biography:* Born in 1984 in Dashoguz. Worked as a wheel cart carrier in city bazaars (Sherbazaar and Baybazaar). Relative of Shykhmurat Rejepdurdyev. Was identified as “Wahhabi” in operations conducted by security police.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested in 2009. Was charged with illegal border crossing (a stamp in the passport was missing). Sentenced to 3 years of imprisonment. Was held in the colony in Seydi. Later the term of his imprisonment was increased (details are unknown).

*Current situation:* No information. According to an unconfirmed report, Iskanderov was transferred to Ovadan Depe prison after the second conviction.

**60. Mejidov, Maylis Muhammedovich**

*Biography:* Participated in informal studies on Islam conducted by Bakhran Saparov. Lived in Lebap Province.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on March 9, 2013. Charged with involvement in anti-state activities (conspiracy to take power, etc.). Convicted on May 22, 2013 by Lebap province court under Art. 174 p. 1; 175 p. 2; 177 p. 3; 275 p. 1, 2; 14-291 of the CCT. Sentenced to a long prison term.

*Current situation:* No information. At the end of 2014, held in Ovadan Depe prison ([http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=2218](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2218)).

**61. Orazov, Dovletgeldi Byashimovich**

*Biography:* Born November 14, 1987 in Ashgabat village of Sarahs District of Ahal Province. Worked as a teacher of mathematics at Secondary School No. 12 in Tejen. Lived in the town of Tejen.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on September 9, 2016. Charged with involvement in the international religious movement created by the Turkish preacher Fethullah Gülen. Convicted on February 8, 2017, by Ashgabat city court under Art. 177 p. 3; 275 p. 2; 275.1 p. 2 of the CCT. Sentenced to 12 years of imprisonment in a strict security colony with confiscation of property and prohibited from teaching for 3 years after release.

*Current situation:* No information. According to an unconfirmed report, Orazov is currently held incommunicado in the Ovadan Depe prison. In December 2017, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention released an advance version of its opinion on a group case, according to which the deprivation of liberty of 18 people, including Orazov, was arbitrary and in contravention of international law. The Working Group requested the government to bring the situation of these individuals into conformity with the standards and principles set forth in international norms by releasing them immediately and according each one of them an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, conducting investigation into the violation of their rights, and taking other

steps.

([http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A\\_HRC\\_WG\\_AD\\_2017\\_70\\_EN.docx](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A_HRC_WG_AD_2017_70_EN.docx)).

#### 62. Orazov, Nurmhammet

*Biography:* Born on December 7, 1974 in Goniamaşa village in Tejen District of Ahal Province. Worked as a teacher of geography at Secondary School No. 6 in Tejen District. Lived in the town of Tejen.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on October 18, 2016. Charged with involvement in the international religious movement created by the Turkish preacher Fethullah Gülen. Convicted on February 8, 2017, by Ashgabat city court under Art. 177 p. 3; 275 p. 2; 275.1 p. 2 of the CCT. Sentenced to 12 years of imprisonment in a strict security colony with confiscation of property and prohibited from teaching for 3 years after release.

*Current situation:* No information. According to an unconfirmed report, Orazov is currently held incommunicado in the Ovadan Depe prison. In December 2017, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention released an advance version of its opinion on a group case, according to which the deprivation of liberty of 18 people, including Orazov, was arbitrary and in contravention of international law. The Working Group requested the government to bring the situation of these individuals into conformity with the standards and principles set forth in international norms by releasing them immediately and according each one of them an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, conducting investigation into the violation of their rights, and taking other steps.

([http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A\\_HRC\\_WG\\_AD\\_2017\\_70\\_EN.docx](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A_HRC_WG_AD_2017_70_EN.docx)).

#### 63. Reyimov, Atadjan Imitjanovich

*Biography:* Master of Sport for boxing. Participated in informal studies on Islam, conducted by Bahram Saparov. Lived in Lebap Province.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on March 9, 2013. Charged with involvement in anti-state activities (conspiracy to take power, etc.). Convicted on May 22, 2013, by Lebap province court under Art. 174 p. 1; 175 p. 2; 177 p. 3; 275 p. 1, 2; 279 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 14-291 of the CCT. Sentenced to a long prison term. According to *Alternative Turkmenistan News*, a later sentence was lengthened. The new sentence calls for serving the first five years of imprisonment in a prison regime. (<http://habartm.org/archives/8225>)



*Current situation:* No information. Was held in colonies LB-K/12 and LB-K/11, from which, after making the term harsher, he was transferred to Ovadan Depe. In December 2017, *Alternative Turkmenistan News* reported that according to unconfirmed information, several weeks earlier, Reyimov had been permitted one visitation with relatives in Ovadan Depe. (<http://habartm.org/archives/8225>)

#### 64. Saparov, Bakhram Jumanazarovich

*Biography:* Born on May 31, 1982, in Turkmenabad city of Lebap Province. The leader of an unregistered Muslim group (up to 60 people), since 2007 unofficially taught Islam. Worked in the fueling service of the local airport. Lived in Turkmenabad.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on March 9, 2013 together with approximately 20 followers. Charged with involvement in anti-state activities (conspiracy to take power,

etc.). Convicted on May 22, 2013, by Lebap province court under Art. 174 p. 1; 175 p. 2; 177 p. 3; 275 p. 1, 2; 14-291 of the CCT. Sentenced to 15 years of imprisonment. Additional conviction on July 4, 2014, under Art. 227 p. 4 and 275 p. 2 of the CCT. Sentenced to 15 years of imprisonment. Additional conviction on June 7, 2016, under Art. 227 p. 2 and 231 p. 2 of the CCT. Sentenced to 15 years of imprisonment. According to information published by *Alternative Turkmenistan News*, a new sentence included the first three years of imprisonment in a prison regime (<http://habartm.org/archives/8225>).

*Current situation:* According to an unofficial source, in October 2014, he was transferred from Tejen colony to Ovadan Depe prison, where he is incommunicado. An eyewitness, who saw him in Ovadan Depe at the end of 2014, reported that he was subjected to torture ([http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=2218](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2218)). According to information from another source, before he was transferred to Ovadan Depe, Saparov was imprisoned in colonies in Tejen and Bairam-Ali (<http://habartm.org/archives/8225>). According to the information of Government of Turkmenistan, submitted in November 2016 to the UN Committee against Torture in Geneva, Saparov “is serving his sentence in AH-T/2 of the Police Department of Ahal Province” (the official name of the Ovadan Depe prison). The response of the Government of Turkmenistan states, “so far, 55 transfers, in the form of groceries, from relatives have been carried out for him,” but there is no mention of letters or visits from his relatives. The information provided by the government is not confirmed by independent sources. In December 2017 *Alternative Turkmenistan News* reported that several weeks earlier Saparov, according to unconfirmed information, had been permitted one visitation by relatives in Ovadan Depe (<http://habartm.org/archives/8225>).

#### **65. Saparov, Kemal**

*Biography:* Born in 1991 in Ashgabat. Student of Russian Ivangorod Humanitarian-Technical Institute (finished the 3<sup>rd</sup> course).

*Arrest and conviction:* In the summer of 2018 returned to Turkmenistan on holiday, where he was arrested and charged with “Islamic extremism.” Convicted in 2018. Sentenced to 15 years imprisonment.

*Current situation:* No information.

#### **66. Halbaev, Kakadjan**

*Biography:* Born on June 10, 1995, in Dashoguz. According to several source, studied at St. Petersburg State University of civic aviation.

*Arrest and conviction:* At the end of November-beginning of December of 2017, he returned to Turkmenistan where he was arrested and charged with Islamic extremism. Convicted in 2017. Sentenced to 15 years imprisonment.

*Current situation:* No information.

#### **67. Yagmyrov, Mekan Ezizgulyevich**

*Biography:* Born on September 1, 1999 in Hanyap village of Sarahs District of Ahal Province. Worked as a teacher of mathematics and informatics at Secondary School No.12 in Tejen. Lived in Tejen.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on September 6, 2016. Charged with involvement in the international religious movement created by the Turkish preacher Fethullah Gülen. Convicted on February 8, 2017, by Ashgabat city court under Art. 177 p. 3; 275 p. 2; 275.1 p. 2 of the CCT. Sentenced to 12 years of imprisonment in a strict security colony with confiscation of property and prohibited from teaching for 3 years after release.

Current situation: No information. According to an unconfirmed report, Yagmyrov is currently held incommunicado in the Ovadan Depe prison. In December 2017, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention released an advance version of its opinion on a group case, according to which the deprivation of liberty of 18 people, including Yagmyrov, was arbitrary and in contravention of international law. The Working Group requested the government to bring the situation of these individuals into conformity with the standards and principles set forth in international norms by releasing them immediately and according each one of them an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, conducting investigation into the violation of their rights, and taking other steps. ([http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A\\_HRC\\_WG\\_AD\\_2017\\_70\\_EN.docx](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A_HRC_WG_AD_2017_70_EN.docx)).

**68. Yagshibaev, Sapardurdy Ashirdurdyevich**

Biography: Born on January 10, 1980, in Turkmenistan rural district of Tagta District of Dashoguz Province. Lived in Ashgabat.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested on November 15, 2016. Charged with involvement in the international religious movement created by the Turkish preacher Fethullah Gülen. Convicted on February 8, 2017, by Ashgabat city court under Art. 136 p.3; 177 p. 3; 275 p. 2; 275.1 p. 2 of the CCT. Sentenced to 12 years of imprisonment in a strict security colony with confiscation of property and prohibited from teaching for 3 years after release.

Current situation: No information. According to an unconfirmed report, Yagshibaev is currently held incommunicado in the Ovadan Depe prison. In December 2017, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention released an advance version of its opinion on a group case, according to which the deprivation of liberty of 18 people, including Yagshibaev, was arbitrary and in contravention of international law. The Working Group requested the government to bring the situation of these individuals into conformity with the standards and principles set forth in international norms by releasing them immediately and according each one of them an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, conducting investigation into the violation of their rights, and taking other steps. ([http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A\\_HRC\\_WG\\_AD\\_2017\\_70\\_EN.docx](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A_HRC_WG_AD_2017_70_EN.docx)).



## DISAPPEARED IN TURKMENISTAN'S PRISONS, CONVICTED OF ECONOMIC CRIMES AND ABUSE OF POWER

### 69. Annadurdyev, Gurbangeldy Ishankulyevich

*Biography:* Head of the Department of the National Security Committee of Balkan Province, Colonel. On March 5, 2002, dismissed for gross violations of the law and abuse of office, deprived of military rank and state awards.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested in 2002. Fate is unknown.

*Current situation:* No information.

### 70. Arazov, Redzhepbai Arazovich

*Biography:* Born in 1947 in the village of Shahman of Gasankuly District of Balkan Province. In 1971 graduated from the Turkmen Polytechnic Institute. Worked in various positions in the oil and gas industry. From January 1990 until May 1992—Deputy of the Supreme Council of the Turkmen SSR, from May 18, 1992, to January 1, 1995—Deputy of the Mejlis of Turkmenistan. From 1992—chief geologist, from 1997—First Deputy Chairman of the State corporation “Turkmenneft.” From May 20, 1998—Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources. Simultaneously, from July 24, 1998—Executive Director of the Competent Authority on the use of Hydrocarbon Resources under the President of Turkmenistan. From September 14, 2000—Head of Administration of Balkan Province. On June 24, 2001, elected Deputy of the Mejlis of Turkmenistan. From July 7, 2001—Chairman of the Mejlis of Turkmenistan. From March 14, 2002—Deputy Prime Minister (supervised power structures), Defense Minister, Rector of the Military Institute. Simultaneously, from December 31(?), 2002—Secretary of the State Security Council of Turkmenistan. On September 29, 2003, removed from his responsibilities by special request. From September 29, 2003, until to autumn of 2004(?)—Chairman of the National Center of Trade Unions of Turkmenistan. Lived in Ashgabat.



*Arrest and conviction:* Convicted between 2004 and 2007. Sentenced to a long prison term.

*Current situation:* No information. Held in Ovadan Depe prison at the beginning of 2008. According to unconfirmed report (“List of 25”), died in custody on March 18, 2008.

### 71. Ataev, Nurmurad

*Biography:* Chairman of the Association of livestock joint stock companies of Turkmenistan “Turkmenmallary.” On September 10, 2002, dismissed “for serious shortcomings in work.”

*Arrest and conviction:* Charged with appropriation of Charvadar enterprise funds, initially for approximately 2 billion manat, illegal possession of 2000 head of sheep, etc. (*Neitralnyi Turkmenistan*, 11.09.2002). Later, General Prosecutor Atadzhanova stated that under the “roof” of the company Charvadar, created by Ataev, wool and other livestock products worth 13 billion manat had been stolen, resulting in their acquisition of illegal profits of 58 billion manat and the possession of over 70 thousand sheep, a thousand head of cattle, etc. (*Neitralnyi Turkmenistan*, 16.11.2002). Convicted in 2002. Sentenced to a long prison term.

*Current situation:* No information. According to unconfirmed report (“List of 25”), died in custody on August 14, 2007.

72. **Begenjov, Gurbandurdy Garyagdyevich**

*Biography:* Born in 1956, Mary Province, Turkmenistan. In 1978 graduated from the Turkmen Agricultural Institute. From 1978, worked in Bayramali veterinary college. From 1981-1985, served as Second, then as First Secretary of the City of Bayramali Committee of the Komsomol. From March to September 1985—Head of the Department of the Working and Rural Central



Committee of the Communist Youth Union of Turkmenistan. From 1985, worked in various positions in KGB, from 1992 – in bodies of the National Security Committee of Turkmenistan. Until June 2001—Deputy Chairman of the National Security Committee, Head of Military Counterintelligence. From June 26, 2001—Minister of Defense. Simultaneously, from July 9, 2001—Dean of the Military Institute. On October 25, 2001, achieved the rank of Major General. On March 14, 2002, dismissed “for serious shortcomings and omissions in his work, and the use of official position for personal gain during work in the National Security Committee of Turkmenistan.” On April 1, 2002, deprived of military rank and state awards. Lived in Ashgabat.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested in April 2002. Charged with four articles of the CCT (Turkmenistan.ru, 07.05.2002). Convicted in May 2002. Sentenced to 10 years of imprisonment. On May 23, 2002, President Niyazov stated that the sentence would be commuted, and that convicted leaders would grow grain in the western region of Bereket (RIA Novosti, 24.05.2002).

*Current situation:* In March 2003, the prosecutor’s office reported that Begenjov was serving his sentence “in the form of a residence in a designated area” (Turkmenistan.ru, 19.03.2003, <http://www.turkmenistan.ru/ru/node/14927>). Information about his fate is controversial. According to an unconfirmed report (“List of 25”), died in custody on April 23, 2007; according to historian Shokhrat Kadyrov, in 2006. According to TurkmenWiki, was released after the expiration of the prison term ([http://gundogar-mediawiki.tw1.ru/index.php/Бегенчев\\_Курбандурды](http://gundogar-mediawiki.tw1.ru/index.php/Бегенчев_Курбандурды)).

73. **Yoldashev, Kerimkuly Babakulyevich**

*Biography:* Head of the Department of the National Security Committee of Turkmenistan, Colonel. On April 1, 2002, dismissed for gross legal violations and serious shortcomings in work, deprived of military rank and state awards. Lived in Ashgabat.

*Arrest and conviction:* Convicted in 2002. Sentenced to a long prison term.

*Current situation:* No information. In early 2014 The Turkmen Initiative for Human Rights received an unconfirmed report, according to which Yoldashev was held in the AH-K/3 colony near Ovadan Depe prison.

74. **Kandymov, Seitbay Kandymovich**

*Biography:* Born in 1949, from a village of the Krach of the Farab District of Lebap Province. In 1974 graduated from the Turkmen Agricultural Institute, in 1987 from the Moscow Institute of National Economy, in 1995 was a graduate student at the Institute of Economics of the Academy of Sciences of Turkmenistan. Since 1968 worked in various positions in the banking system of Turkmenistan. From 1992—Chairman of the Board of the State Commercial Bank “Turkmenistan” in Ashgabat. From May 24, 1999—Chairman of the Board of the Central Bank of Turkmenistan. Simultaneously, from January 6, 2000—Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan;

from January 7, 2000—Manager for Board of Governors of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development from Turkmenistan, Manager for the International Monetary Fund from Turkmenistan, National Coordinator for international technical assistance; from January 31, 2000—Executive Director of the bank “Prezidentbank.” On May 6, 2002 was relieved of his posts for “serious shortcomings in work and failure to provide the necessary guidance at the work place.” At a meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers on May 6, 2002, Kandymov was accused of finding positions for his relatives in the banking and financial systems, illegally obtaining land for them and transferring to them state-owned securities; links with oppositionists based abroad, Khanamov and Orazov, and not maintaining sufficient control over the circulation of foreign currency (RIA Novosti, 07.05.2002; Turkmenistan.ru, 07.05.2002). Lived in Ashgabat.



Arrest and conviction: Arrested in May 2002. Accused of abuse of power, theft of state resources, etc. On July 4, 2002, president Niyazov said that Kandymov hid “enormous sums” in the UAE; engaged in “criminal conspiracy” with the Head of the National Security Committee, Muhamed Nazarov, illegally gave him US \$1 million, for which he had not accounted, and also helped Nazarov convert large amounts of currency received from banks “Senegat” and “Russian Credit” for “personal needs” (*Neitralnyi Turkmenistan*, 24.07.2002). Convicted by the Supreme Court of Turkmenistan no later than September 2002. Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment.

Current situation: No information. According to unconfirmed report (“List of 25”), died in custody on August 20, 2011; according to another account – in 2003-2004. According to a third source, as of December 2013 was still serving his sentence. According to Rights and Freedoms of Turkmenistan's Citizens, an organization founded by Turkmen expatriates, Kandymov was originally held in prison in the city of Turkmenbashi, and after that his whereabouts have been unknown and the family has no information about his fate. His wife died from a stroke in 2011.

#### **75. Sardzhaev, Batyr Kurbanovich**

Biography: Born on February 20, 1945, in Dashoguz. In 1968-1973 studied at the Turkmen Agricultural Institute. In 1964-1967 served in the Soviet Army. From 1974—Head of the technical control department, chief engineer of the Ashgabat repair plant Number 1. From 1979—Deputy Chief of Operations, Chief Engineer of the Ashgabat motor transport enterprise. From 1980—Deputy Head of the Department of Transport and Communications of the Office of the Council of Ministers of TSSR. From



March 1986—Deputy Chairman of the Executive Committee of Ashgabat. From November 1986—First Secretary of the Lenin District Committee of Ashgabat of the Communist Party. From February 25, 1988—Head of the Socio-economic Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Turkmenistan. From April 23, 1990—First Secretary of the Ashgabat City Committee of the Communist Party. Simultaneously, from January 1991 until May 18, 1992—Chairman of the Ashgabat City Council. From September 3, 1992—Mayor of the city of Ashgabat. From May 12, 1990, until August 1991—Member of the Central Committee and the Bureau of the Central Committee of Bureau of the Communist Party of Turkmenistan. From January 1990 until

May 1992—Deputy of the Supreme Council of the Turkmen SSR, from May 18, 1992, to January 1, 1995—Deputy of the Mejlis of Turkmenistan. From June 3, 1993 until May 7, 2001—Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan. First responsibly for transportation and communications, in 1995-1996 and 1999-2001 security structures, in 1996-1997, oil and gas industry, energy, machine building, chemicals, geology, etc., in 1997-1999, the oil and gas sector and geology. Simultaneously, from June 28, 1993, until December 2, 1996—Chairman of the State Committee on Emergency Situations; from March 1995 until December 2, 1996—Chair of the State Commission on Material-Technical Assistance to the Military Complex, deputy chair of the Council of Military and National Security of Turkmenistan; April 7, 1997, to May 20, 1998—Minister of oil and gas industry and mineral resources; from May 24, 1999, until June 26, 2001—Defense Minister; from May 24, 1999, until July 9, 2001—Rector of the Military Institute. From June 26, 2001—Head of the Turkmen Railways “Turkmen demiryollary.” On July 29, 2002, dismissed “for serious shortcomings in work.” Lived in Ashgabat.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested on August 5, 2002. Charged with employment and economic crimes, including stealing around US \$2 million as a result of raising prices in the purchase of three locomotives in Ukraine (*RIA Novosti*, 30.07.2002). According to unconfirmed information, during the interrogation by the General Prosecutor on August 23, 2002, suffered a stroke, which paralyzed the right side of his face (*Vremya Novostei*, 29.08.2002). According to unconfirmed information, convicted on October 12, 2002. Sentenced to 12 years of imprisonment (<http://habartm.org/archives/1789>), according to different information, to 18 years of imprisonment in a strict security colony.

Current situation: No information. According to the Turkmen Helsinki Fund for Human Rights, at the end of 2003 Sardzhaev was held in Akdash colony (in western Turkmenistan) (<http://www.tmhelsinki.org/ru/modules/news/article.php?storyid=540>). According to unconfirmed information, in June 2004 he was transferred from a prison in Turkmenbashi to Ovadan Depe prison (<http://www.tmhelsinki.org/ru/modules/news/article.php?storyid=420>). Various rumors about his death circulated. According to unconfirmed report (“List of 25”), he died on October 11, 2004, according to other versions – in 2003, 2006, 2007 or in the fall of 2009. According to a former prisoner, in about 2006-2007 Sardzhaev was held in Ovadan Depe prison. According to unconfirmed information, he was still there in 2014. According to *Alternative Turkmenistan News*, in 2013 his loved ones appealed to the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the General Prosecutor about the fate of Sardzhaev, and a response was received from the Ministry of Internal Affairs that he, “continues to serve out his punishment” (<http://habartm.org/archives/1789>). The relatives have no reliable information about his fate.

## 76. Soltanov, Annamurat Soltanovich

Biography: Born in 1943, in Ileri village of the Turkmen-Kala District of Mary Province. In 1969 graduated from the Turkmen Agricultural Institute. In 1969-1971 served in the Soviet Army. In 1971-1973 studied in Tashkent Higher Military School, in 1974-1977 – in Frunze Military Academy. From 1977—Deputy Chief of Department of the Staff of Division. From 1979—Commander of the 373rd Guards Motorized Rifle Regiment of the 5th Guards Motorized Rifle Division in town of Tahtabazar in Mary Province. Unit took part in the Soviet invasion of





Afghanistan in December 1979. From March 1980—Commander of the 70th Separate Motorized Infantry Brigade in Kandahar (Afghanistan), created on the base of the 373<sup>rd</sup> regiment. From May 1980—Commander of training regiment in Ashgabat, then Military Adviser in Cuba, Military Commissar in the city of Dzhizak (Uzbekistan), Military Commissar of the Soviet District of the city of Ashgabat. From October 1991—Military Commissar of Turkmenistan. From January 27, 1992—Deputy Minister of Defense of Turkmenistan. From 1993(?)—First Deputy Minister of Defense and Chief of General Staff of the Armed Forces of Turkmenistan. On January 27, 1992, promoted to the rank of Major General, on December 28, 1993—Lieutenant-General, and later, Colonel-General. From February 11, 1997—Military Commissar of Balkan Province. On June 14, 2001 dismissed “for serious shortcomings in work,” deprived of military rank and fired.

Arrest and conviction: According to unconfirmed information, was accused, in connection with the investigation into the supply of military equipment in 1994, in which Boris Shikhmuradov was later accused. Convicted in 2001. Sentenced to a long prison term.

Current situation: No information. According to unconfirmed reports, in February 2015 held in Ovadan Depe prison.

#### **77. Tachnazarov, Guychnazar**

Biography: Born in 1951 in the town of Serdar (former Kizyl-Arvat) of Balkan Province. Graduated from Turkmen Polytechnic Institute and the Plekhanov Institute of National Economy in Moscow. From 1974 worked in various jobs in the company, “Turkmengazprom.” From 1985 at various jobs in the Mary Communist Party offices of the Communist Party of Turkmenistan, working in various positions from instructor to deputy chair of the Commission on Social-Economic Development. From 1991—Head, from 1992—Director of the Shatlyksk Natural Gas Complex, reorganized to be “Marygazchykarysh.” From 1994—General Director of the company, “Maryneftegazdobycha.” From July 1, 1996—State minister, Chairman of the State concern, “Turkmengaz.” From May 20, 2005—Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan (responsible for the oil and gas sector). Simultaneously from September 13, 2005—Minister of Oil and Gas Industry and Mineral Resources. On October 31, 2005, dismissed for abuse of power for personal gain, stealing state finances in large amounts, and for serious inadequacies in leadership.” Lived in Ashgabat.

Arrest and conviction: At a meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers on October 31, 2005, it was stated that “according to confirmed information the former Vice-Minister stole from the state and took property worth more than US \$266 million and 1 billion manat.” (*Neitralnyi Turkmenistan*, 01.11.2005). On December 31, 2005, President Niyazov stated that Tachnazarov had admitted taking bribes of US \$5 million and that US \$5-10 million were seized from him (*Gundogar*, 16.01.2006). Sentenced to a long prison term.

Current situation: No information.

#### **78. Khalykov, Khudaykuly**

Biography: Born in 1942, in Kodzhe village in the Kizylarvat District of Balkan Province. In 1965 graduated from the Tashkent Institute of Railway Engineers. From 1965 worked in various jobs in the railroad system in Ashgabat and Chardzhou. From 1980 – head of Chardzhou branch of the Central Asian Railway. From 1991 - first deputy, from June 26, 1992 - head of the Turkmen Railway. From June 28, 1993 - head of the State Railway of Turkmenistan. From August 2, 1996 – deputy chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan. Responsible for transport, telecommunications, industrial

construction materials and research from August to October 1996 – also construction. On January 16, 2001, dismissed “for serious shortcomings in work”. Lived in Ashgabat.

Arrest and conviction: Accused of abuse of power, etc. Convicted in 2001. According to the website, Gundogar, spent about a year in prison, then his imprisonment was changed to being sent with his family to live in a rural place, where he lived under police observation, and his property was confiscated. (Gundogar, 10.10.2002). According to unconfirmed information from another source, in approximately 2004, he was moved to a strict security colony.

Current situation: No information.

#### **79. Khudaykuliev, Bayramkuli Jepbarovich**

Biography: Head of the Department of the National Security Committee of the Mary Province, Colonel. On March 5, 2002, dismissed for violation of the rule of law and abuse of office, deprived of military rank and state awards.

Arrest and conviction: Convicted in 2002.

Current situation: No information. In early 2014 the Turkmen Initiative for Human Rights received an unconfirmed report, according to which Khudaykuliev was being held in the AH-K/3 colony near Ovadan Depe prison.

#### **80. Jazmyradov, Jaranmyrat Redjepovich**

Biography: Born in 1971 in Abadan village in the Rukhabat District of Ahal Province. In 1996, he completed a correspondence course at the Makhtumkuli Turkmen State University Faculty of Law. Between 2004 and 2005, he held various positions with the Supreme Court of Turkmenistan. In 1996-1997, he was a judge of the Ashgabat Garrison Military Court. Between 1997 and 2007, he served as a judge of the Ashgabat City Court, then in social security agencies in Ashgabat, then as the head of department of law enforcement and military bodies at the khyakimlik of the Akhal velayat, and then at the khyakimlik of the President Niyazov etrap in Ashgabat. In 2007-2008, he served as a judge of the Ashgabat City Court. Starting in 2008, he was the chairman of the Ahal Velayat Court. Starting on March 3, 2018, he was the Chairman of the Supreme Court of Turkmenistan. Starting on October 4, 2011, he was appointed Prosecutor General of Turkmenistan. On August 31, 2013, dismissed “for serious shortcomings in work”. Lived in Ashgabat.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in 2013. Sentenced to 25 years in imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) and further settlement in a designated area for 5 years.

Current situation: No information. According to an unconfirmed report, in July 2014 was being held in Ovadan Depe prison (<http://habartm.org/archives/1143>).



## DISAPPEARED CIVIL SOCIETY ACTIVISTS IN TURKMENISTAN'S PRISONS

### 81. Omarkuliev, Omruzak

*Biography:* Born in Lebap velayat. Second-year student at the Osmaniye Korkut Ata University Faculty of Engineering, Turkey. Established an association of Turkmen students in Turkey. Residence registration in the town of Dostluk of Lebap velayat. On January 21, 2018, he said in an interview to the RFE/RL Turkmen service that the Turkmen Embassy was interested and supportive of the association he had established. On February 14, 2018, on the request of Murat Akmammedov, Head of the Consulate of Turkmenistan in Ankara, and at the invitation of the Central Election Commission of Turkmenistan, he was brought to Turkmenistan to attend an event held in preparation to the March 25 parliamentary elections. On February 22, 2018, he was not allowed to board his flight to Istanbul. On the next day, he was informed of a ban on exiting the country, no reasons given. Between February 22 and March 1, 2018, he lived at the airport trying to fly to Turkey to his wife. However, his appeals to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Prosecutor General's Office to allow him to leave the country remained unanswered. On March 9, 2018, he once again was not allowed to board a flight to Istanbul, as he said in an interview to the RFE/RL Turkmen service. After that, all communication with the activist stopped (<http://rus.azathabar.com/a/29287171.html>). Previously, he had received threats from the MNB after reports of the events appeared on foreign websites.



*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested in the spring of 2018. Tried and convicted behind closed doors in the first half of May 2018. Sentenced to 20 years of deprivation of liberty (with the first 5 years to be served in prison). Shirinbai, Omruzak Omarkuliev's father, died three days after the verdict and was buried in a cemetery in Deinau etrap of Lebap velayat (<http://www.hronikatm.com/2018/06/skonchalsya-otets-omruzaka-omarkulieva-studenta-aktivista-osuzhdennogo-na-20-let/>; <http://rus.azathabar.com/a/29318320.html>).

*Current situation:* No information. According to unconfirmed reports, in June 2018, he was held in the Ovadan Depe prison. After the arrest, the family was not allowed to visit him. His parents' family in Dustluk has been subjected to pressure from special services (<http://rus.azathabar.com/a/29287171.html>; <http://habartm.org/archives/9260>).



**DISAPPEARED IN TURKMENISTAN'S PRISONS WHO,  
ACCORDING TO THE AUTHORITIES, HAVE BEEN VISITED  
BY RELATIVES, BUT THIS INFORMATION HAS NOT BEEN  
CONFIRMED BY INDEPENDENT SOURCES**

**82. Amangeldyev, Dowletgeldi Hydyrgulyevich**

*Biography:* Born on May 18, 1976, in Ashgabat. An entrepreneur (furniture builder). Lived in Yalkym village in Abadan District of Ashgabat.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on October 11, 2016. Charged with involvement in the international religious movement created by the Turkish preacher Fethullah Gülen. Convicted on February 8, 2017, by Ashgabat city court under Art. 177 p. 3; 275 p. 3; 275.1 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and prohibited from engaging in business activities for 3 years after release.

*Current situation:* No information. According to an unconfirmed report, Amangeldyev is currently held incommunicado in the Ovadan Depe prison. In December 2017, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention released an advance version of its opinion on a group case, according to which the deprivation of liberty of 18 people, including Amangeldyev, was arbitrary and in contravention of international law. The Working Group requested the government to bring the situation of these individuals into conformity with the standards and principles set forth in international norms by releasing them immediately and according each one of them an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, conducting investigation into the violation of their rights, and taking other steps ([http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A\\_HRC\\_WG\\_AD\\_2017\\_70\\_EN.docx](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A_HRC_WG_AD_2017_70_EN.docx)). In June 2018, the Turkmen government reported that Amangeldyev was held in a penitentiary facility in Akhal velayat and had been visited by relatives and received parcels on many occasions. This information has not been confirmed by independent sources.

**83. Atageldyev, Resulberdi Annaberdyevich**

*Biography:* Born on April 16, 1979 in Berkarar village in the Tejen District of Ahal Province. Graduated from the International Turkmen-Turkish University in Ashgabat. Head of the company “Merdem” (owner of the restaurant “AlpEt” and entertainment center “Merdem”). Lived in Ashgabat.

*Arrest and conviction:* According to unconfirmed reports, in August-October 2016 was held in custody in a criminal case for improper use of loans. Arrested on October 11, 2016. Charged with involvement in the international religious movement created by the Turkish preacher Fethullah Gülen. Convicted on February 8, 2017 by Ashgabat city court under Art. 177 p. 3; 275 p. 3; 275.1 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property.

*Current situation:* No information. According to an unconfirmed report, is currently held incommunicado in the Ovadan Depe prison. In December 2017, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention released an advance version of its opinion on a group case, according to which the deprivation of liberty of 18 individuals, including



Atageldyev, was arbitrary and in contravention of international law. The Working Group requested the government to bring the situation of these individuals into conformity with the standards and principles set forth in the international norms by releasing them immediately and according each one of them an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, conducting investigation into the violation of their rights, and taking other steps.

([http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A\\_HRC\\_WG\\_AD\\_2017\\_70\\_EN.docx](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A_HRC_WG_AD_2017_70_EN.docx)). In June 2018, the Turkmen government reported that Atageldyev was held in a penitentiary facility in Akhal velayat and had been visited by relatives and received parcels on many occasions. This information has not been confirmed by independent sources.

#### **84. Ataev, Batyr Bayramgeldievich**

*Biography:* Born on June 22, 1975, in Bereket village of Ahal Province. Geography teacher in secondary school № 11 in the town of Tejen. Lived in the town of Tejen in Ahal Province.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on October 18, 2016. Charged with involvement in the international religious movement created by the Turkish preacher Fethullah Gülen. Convicted on February 8, 2017, by Ashgabat city court under Art. 177 p. 3; 275 p. 3; 275.1 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and prohibited from teaching for 3 years after release.

*Current situation:* No information. According to an unconfirmed report, Ataev is currently held incommunicado in the Ovadan Depe prison. In December 2017, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention released an advance version of its opinion on a group case, according to which the deprivation of liberty of 18 individuals, including Ataev, was arbitrary and in contravention of international law. The Working Group requested the government to bring the situation of these individuals into conformity with the standards and principles set forth in the international norms by releasing them immediately and according each one of them an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, conducting investigation into the violation of their rights, and taking other steps.

([http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A\\_HRC\\_WG\\_AD\\_2017\\_70\\_EN.docx](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A_HRC_WG_AD_2017_70_EN.docx)). In June 2018, the Turkmen government reported that Ataev was held in a penitentiary facility in Akhal velayat and had been visited by relatives and received parcels on many occasions. This information has not been confirmed by independent sources.

#### **85. Ataev, Doyletmyrat Amanmyradovich**

*Biography:* Born on November 19, 1976, in Ashgabat. The owner of supermarket chain “A-Market.” Lived in Ashgabat.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on October 14, 2016. Charged with involvement in the international religious movement created by the Turkish preacher Fethullah Gülen. Convicted on February 8, 2017, by Ashgabat city court under Art. 177 p. 3; 275 p. 3; 275.1 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and prohibited from engaging in business for 3 years after release.

*Current situation:* No information. According to an unconfirmed report, Ataev is currently held incommunicado in the Ovadan Depe prison. In December 2017, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention released an advance version of its opinion on a

group case, according to which the deprivation of liberty of 18 individuals, including Ataev, was arbitrary and in contravention of international law. The Working Group requested the government to bring the situation of these individuals into conformity with the standards and principles set forth in the international norms by releasing them immediately and according each one of them an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, conducting investigation into the violation of their rights, and taking other steps. ([http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A\\_HRC\\_WG\\_AD\\_2017\\_70\\_EN.docx](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A_HRC_WG_AD_2017_70_EN.docx)). In June 2018, the Turkmen government reported that Ataev was held in a penitentiary facility in Akhal velayat and had been visited by relatives and received parcels on many occasions. This information has not been confirmed by independent sources. His sentence expired in May 2019.

**86. Atayev, Mamour Tangeberyanovich**

*Biography:* Born on November 13, 1961, in the city of Dashoguz. An ethnic Uzbek. Has a higher education. Lived in Ashgabat.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on July 19, 2004. Charged with assisting in the illegal crossing of the border by relatives of the Yklymov brothers. Convicted on October 5, 2004 by Niyazov's District Court of Ashgabat city under Art. 214 p. 2 and 13-214 p. 2 of the CCT. Sentenced to 15 years imprisonment in a strict security colony.

*Current situation:* According to information from the Government of Turkmenistan (June 2018), he held in the MR-K/16 colony in Tejen, and had been visited by relatives and received parcels on many occasions. The information has not been confirmed by independent sources.

**87. Gullyev, Myrat Owezgeldievich**

*Biography:* Born on April 1, 1983, in Kichiaga village of the Sarahs District of Ahal Province. Director of the company "Yshyk chesmesi." Lived in the town of Tejen in Ahal Province.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on October 5, 2016. Charged with involvement in the international religious movement created by the Turkish preacher Fethullah Gülen. Convicted on February 8, 2017, by Ashgabat city court under Art. 177 p. 3; 275 p. 3; 275.1 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

*Current situation:* No information. According to an unconfirmed report, is currently held incommunicado in the Ovadan Depe prison. In December 2017, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention released an advance version of its opinion on a group case, according to which the deprivation of liberty of 18 individuals, including Gullyev, was arbitrary and in contravention of international law. The Working Group requested government to bring the situation of these individuals into conformity with the standards and principles set forth in the international norms by releasing them immediately and according each one of them an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, conducting investigation into the violation of their rights, and taking other steps. ([http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A\\_HRC\\_WG\\_AD\\_2017\\_70\\_EN.docx](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A_HRC_WG_AD_2017_70_EN.docx)). In June 2018, the Turkmen government reported that Gullyev was held in a penitentiary facility in Akhal velayat and had been visited by relatives and received parcels on many occasions. This information has not been confirmed by independent sources.

### **88. Ibrayimov, Saparmyrat Abdysuhanovich**

*Biography:* Born on May 29, 1984, in Borme village in Baharly District of Ahal Province. Head of Department of the State Migration Service of Turkmenistan for the town of Tejen. Lived in the town of Tejen in Ahal Province.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on November 1, 2016. Charged with involvement in the international religious movement created by the Turkish preacher Fethullah Gülen. Convicted on February 8, 2017, by Ashgabat city court under Art. 177 p. 3; 275 p. 3; 275.1 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

*Current situation:* No information. According to an unconfirmed report, is currently held incommunicado in the Ovadan Depe prison. In December 2017, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention released an advance version of its opinion on a group case, according to which the deprivation of liberty of 18 individuals, including Ibrayimov, was arbitrary and in contravention of international law. The Working Group requested the government to bring the situation of these individuals into conformity with the standards and principles set forth in the international norms by releasing them immediately and according each one of them an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, conducting investigation into the violation of their rights, and taking other steps.

([http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A\\_HRC\\_WG\\_AD\\_2017\\_70\\_EN.docx](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A_HRC_WG_AD_2017_70_EN.docx)). In June 2018, the Turkmen government reported that Ibrayimov was held in a penitentiary facility in Akhal velayat and had been visited by relatives and received parcels on many occasions. This information has not been confirmed by independent sources.

### **89. Melayev, Ovezdurdy Bayramdurdyevich**

*Biography:* Born on May 18, 1975, in Gyzylyarbat town of Balkan Province. An entrepreneur. Lived in Ashgabat.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on October 18, 2016. Charged with involvement in the international religious movement created by the Turkish preacher Fethullah Gülen. Convicted on February 8, 2017, by Ashgabat city court under Art. 177 p. 3; 275 p. 3; 275.1 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and prohibited from engaging in business activity for 3 years after release.

*Current situation:* No information. According to an unconfirmed report, is currently held incommunicado in the Ovadan Depe prison. In December 2017, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention released an advance version of its opinion on a group case, according to which the deprivation of liberty of 18 individuals, including Melayev, was arbitrary and in contravention of international law. The Working Group requested the government to bring the situation of these individuals into conformity with the standards and principles set forth in the international norms by releasing them immediately and according each one of them an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, conducting investigation into the violation of their rights, and taking other steps.

([http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A\\_HRC\\_WG\\_AD\\_2017\\_70\\_EN.docx](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A_HRC_WG_AD_2017_70_EN.docx)). In June 2018, the Turkmen government reported that Melayev was held in a penitentiary facility in Akhal velayat and had been visited by relatives and received parcels on many occasions. This information has not been confirmed by independent sources.



**90. Movlyamov, Muhammetberdy Yagmurovich**

Biography: Unavailable

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in late November 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 12 years of imprisonment in a strict security colony with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

Current situation: According to information from the government of Turkmenistan (May 2016), he lives in a designated place since 2014, relatives visit him and he can travel within the country upon prior authorization. There is no confirmation of this information from independent sources.

**91. Nazargulyev, Dovletguly Mammedovich**

Biography: Not available.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 263; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 12 years of imprisonment in a strict security colony with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

Current situation: According to information from the government of Turkmenistan (May 2016), he lives in a designated place since 2014, relatives visit him, and he can travel within the country upon prior authorization. There is no confirmation of this information from independent sources.

**92. Orazmammedov, Annamammet Charymammedovich**

Biography: Born on November 13, 1980 in Babadayhan District of Ahal Province. Deputy Director (of foreign language study) in secondary school № 11 of the town of Tejen. Lived in the town of Tejen in Ahal Province.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested on October 18, 2016. Charged with involvement in the international religious movement created by the Turkish preacher Fethullah Gülen. Convicted on February 8, 2017, by Ashgabat city court under Art. 177 p. 3; 275 p. 3; 275.1 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and prohibited from engaging in leadership or educational work for 3 years after release.

Current situation: No information. According to an unconfirmed report, is currently held incommunicado in the Ovadan Depe prison. In December 2017 the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention released an advance version of its opinion on a group case, according to which the deprivation of liberty of 18 individuals, including Orazmammedov, was arbitrary and in contravention of international law. The Working Group requested the government to bring the situation of these individuals into conformity with the standards and principles set forth in the international norms by releasing them immediately and according each one of them an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, conducting investigation into the violation of their

rights, and taking other steps. ([http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A\\_HRC\\_WG\\_AD\\_2017\\_70\\_EN.docx](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A_HRC_WG_AD_2017_70_EN.docx)). In June 2018, the Turkmen government reported that Orazmammedow was held in a penitentiary facility in Akhal velayat and had been visited by relatives and received parcels on many occasions. This information has not been confirmed by independent sources.

### **93. Orazmuhamedov, Tashmuhamet Abdyrasulovich**

*Biography:* Born on November 16, 1978, in the town of Tejen in Ahal Province. Deputy Director (for education) in secondary school № 11 of the town of Tejen. Lived in the town of Tejen in Ahal Province.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on October 18, 2016. Charged with involvement in the international religious movement created by the Turkish preacher Fethullah Gülen. Convicted on February 8, 2017, by Ashgabat city court under Art. 177 p. 3; 275 p. 3; 275.1 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and prohibited engaging in leadership or educational work for 3 years after release.

*Current situation:* No information. According to unconfirmed report, is currently held incommunicado in the Ovadan Depe prison. In December 2017, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention released an advance version of its opinion on a group case, according to which the deprivation of liberty of 18 individuals, including Orazmuhamedov, was arbitrary and in contravention of international law. The Working Group requested the government to bring the situation of these individuals into conformity with the standards and principles set forth in the international norms by releasing them immediately and according each one of them an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, conducting investigation into the violation of their rights, and taking other steps. ([http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A\\_HRC\\_WG\\_AD\\_2017\\_70\\_EN.docx](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session80/A_HRC_WG_AD_2017_70_EN.docx)). In June 2018, the Turkmen government reported that Orazmuhamedov was held in a penitentiary facility in Akhal velayat and had been visited by relatives and received parcels on many occasions. This information has not been confirmed by independent sources.

### **94. Esenov, Guychmyrad**

*Biography:* From April 29, 2000–Director of the Turkmenbashi Complex of oil refineries. On September 13, 2005, dismissed “for serious shortcomings in work.” President Niyazov said that Esenov had been “stealing with Gurbanmuradov” and three days ago “returned” about 9.574 billion manat and should return another US \$2.111 million. Until the return of that money, Esenov is temporarily being detained. But, “if something like this should happen again or another crime is discovered, you will sit in prison for it” (<http://newdaynews.ru/ekb/39263.html>).

*Arrest and Conviction:* According to unofficial data, convicted in 2005. Sentenced to a long prison term.

*Current situation:* According to information from the government of Turkmenistan (April 2017 and June 2018) held in the MR-K/16 colony in Tejen has been visited by relatives on many occasions and received parcels. However, there is no confirmation of this information from independent sources.

## DISAPPEARED IN TURKMENISTAN'S PRISONS, DECEASED IN CUSTODY

### 95. Adov, Vladimir

*Biography:* Born in 1952. An employee of the State Committee on Standardization. Lived in the city of Mary.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested in late 2002 during the investigation of the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Charged with complicity in the preparation of documents in autumn 2002 for the shipment of a consignment of water heating tanks from Turkey, inside which the coup plotters allegedly hid weapons. Convicted in 2003 under Art. 181 p. 2 and 187 of the Criminal Code of Turkmenistan (CCT), and sentenced to 8 years of imprisonment in a general security colony. Held in LBK-12 penal colony in Seydi town in Lebap Province. In April 2004, isolated together with 16 other “terrorists” in a separate block of the colony.

*Current situation:* According to information from the former political prisoner Akmuhammet Bayhanov, Adov died in custody from kidney failure in December 2004. His body was handed over to the family.

### 96. Aydogdyev, Dortkuli

*Biography:* Born in 1962 in the village of Geokcha of the Ashgabat District of Ahal Province. In 1990 graduated from the Turkmen Institute of National Economy. From 1982—junior seller, manager of a store, deputy director, director of the Leninsk district produce center in Ashgabat. From 1994—Deputy General Director, General Director of the State wholesale-resale association “Turkmenbakaleya.” From November 29, 1995—Deputy Chairman of the State commodity exchange. From April 23, 1999—Minister of Trade and International Trade. From October 30, 2001—Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Turkmenistan to the Federal Republic of Germany. From August 23, 2002—Minister of Textile Production. Simultaneously, from November 15, 2002—Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan. On May 16, 2006, dismissed “for serious shortcomings in the work and abuse of power.” President Niyazov stated that Aydogdyev “surrounded himself with unworthy people,” and “purposely led astray the higher leadership of the country,” hiding negative facts about his nominees and their close relatives. Lived in Ashgabat.



*Arrest and conviction:* Accused of abuse of power and other offenses. Convicted in 2006.

*Current situation:* According to the former political prisoner Geldy Kyarizov, in 2006-2007 Aydogdyev was held in Ovadan Depe prison. In the beginning of February 2007 (after the death of President Niyazov), he was transferred to the strict security colony in Bayramali. From there, phoned the new President Berdymukhamedov asking the question, “When will they free us?” On the next day he was returned to Ovadan Depe prison. Geldy Kyarizov stated, based on a reliable source, that Aydogdyev was dead in custody about May-June 2015. The body was given to relatives. Was buried near village of the Geokcha of the Derveze District of Ahal Province. According to participants in the funeral, the body of Aydogdyev weighed less than 50 kilograms – in comparison to over 115 kg at the time of arrest. This information was confirmed by another source.

### 97. Allakulyev, Allamurat Kakabaevich

Biography: Head of the 4th Department of the National Security Committee (NSC) of Turkmenistan, Lieutenant Colonel. On March 5, 2002, dismissed for gross violations of the law and abuse of office, deprived of military rank and state awards. Lived in Ashgabat.



Arrest and conviction: Arrested in spring of 2002. Charged with the commission of grave and especially grave crimes related to his work in NSC. Convicted on June 15, 2002 by Supreme Court of Turkmenistan along with Muhamed Nazarov and Hayit Kakaev on thirteen articles of the CCT (Art. 101, 107, 148, 182, 184, 195, 229, 292, and others). Sentenced to 18 years of imprisonment, to be served in a strict security colony, with confiscation of property (Turkmenistan.ru, 19.06.2002).

Current situation: Starting in 2002, was held incommunicado. In early 2014, the Turkmen Initiative for Human Rights received an unconfirmed report, according to which Allakulyev held in the AH-K/3 colony near Ovadan Depe prison. According to another report, he was first held in the Ovadan Depe prison and later in a colony for former law enforcement officers in the village of Akdash, Balkan velayat. On March 23, 2018, *Alternative Turkmenistan News* reported that he had died from a heart attack in that colony “about 10 days ago” (<http://habartm.org/archives/8825>). According to the Turkmen Initiative for Human Rights, Allakulyev died on March 10, 2018, in the colony in Akdash (<http://www.hronikatm.com/2018/03/skonchalsya-byivshiy-nachalnik-otdela-knb-allamurad-allakuliev/>).

### 98. Annasakhatov, Annadurdy

Biography: Born on January 28, 1959. A colonel, chief of the counterintelligence division of the Ministry of National Security (MNS) of Turkmenistan. From 1976-1981, studied at the Department of Foreign Languages of the Turkmen State University. After graduation, worked for the Committee for State Security (KGB) in Ashgabat about a year. Then studied at the KGB's Higher Courses in Minsk, which prepared operational staff for the KGB's territorial security bodies. Enrolled in a postgraduate program in Moscow(?) and graduated in 1985 with a Ph.D. in philosophy. Then returned to work at the KGB: a year in Ashgabat, then in Moscow, and was sent by the First Main Directorate of the KGB of the USSR to the Soviet Embassy in China. After that, spent about 5 or 6 years in Japan doing business. Then returned to Moscow where, according to unconfirmed reports, worked in the headquarters of the FSB. Approximately in 1997 moved to Turkmenistan, where he began to work at the National Security Committee (KNB). Worked for one year in the foreign intelligence service (according to unconfirmed reports, during that period he worked for three months as a Consul of Turkmenistan in Herat, Afghanistan). After that worked in high positions in various departments of the KNB, including counter-intelligence. Lived in Ashgabat.



Аннасахатов Аннадурды

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. The video recording of his “confession” was broadcast on TV on December 18, 2002. Convicted on January 15, 2003 by the Supreme Court of Turkmenistan under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s.

“a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to life imprisonment with confiscation of property (this punishment was absent in the Turkmen law).

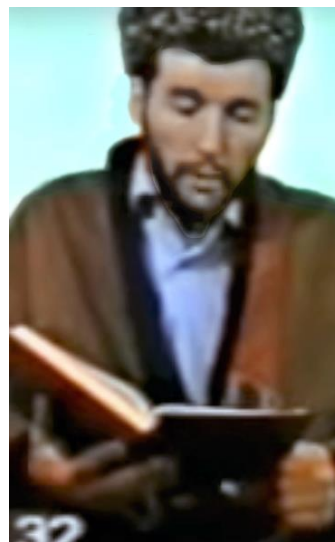
*Current situation:* According to unconfirmed information, in December 2003 was held in the detention center of the Ministry of National Security in Ashgabat, in 2004 moved to a prison. In July 2016, relatives informed the Turkmen service of RFE/RL that he died in prison. His body was handed over to the family in the Ashgabat city morgue. He was buried in Sakarchagi District of Mary Province on February 9, 2016.

**99. Atageldi aga (surname unknown, according to some reports, his official name is Ataev, Artur)**

*Biography:* Born in approximately 1963. Until approximately 2002 or 2003 was an imam of the mosque on Severnaya Street in Ashgabat. After it was closed, was an imam at the mosque in Garadamak settlement. Unofficially taught Islam to children. Was popular among Turkmen Muslims (video recordings of some of his sermons in the Turkmen language are currently available on the Internet). Lived in Ashgabat.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested in September 2008, a few days after the armed incidents in the capital on September 10-13 (see <http://www.fergananews.com/articles/5943> for more details). Charged with involvement in anti-state activities (conspiracy to take power, etc.). Convicted in 2008-2009 by Ashgabat city court under Art. 174, 175 and others of the CCT. Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment in a strict security colony. In 2009, the Supreme Court of Turkmenistan rejected an appeal, leaving the verdict unchanged. According to unconfirmed reports, around the same time, four of his brothers and his father, Shir-aga, were also convicted.

*Current situation:* According to Forum18, after the verdict, was incommunicado (visits and packages were banned). He died in 2013 in a colony in the town of Seydi in Lebap Province. The body was not handed over to relatives ([http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=2218](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2218)). Rights and Freedoms of Turkmenistan's Citizens, an NGO founded by Turkmen expatriates, confirmed this information and said that “the relatives were told that he was kept in the city of Turkmenabad.” In December 2017, a representative of the Turkmen diaspora in Russia also confirmed information about the imam’s death in prison in winter 2014-2015, claiming, however, that his body was handed over to relatives for burial. According to this source, the imam’s father died in prison at the age of 70, half a year after trial, while the imam’s brothers continued to be imprisoned.



**100. Ahmedov, Geday**

*Biography:* Born in 1940 in the Charjou District of Lebap Province. During the Soviet period, worked as chairman of the Khalturina collective farm. From January 1990 until May 1992—Deputy of the Supreme Soviet of the Turkmen SSR, from May 18, 1992 until January 1, 1995—Deputy of the Medjilis of Turkmenistan. From July 14, 1992—Khyakim of the Serdarabad District of Balkan Province. From July 9, 2001—Khyakim of Lebap Province. From October 6, 2005—Khyakim of the Altyn Asyr District of Ahal Province. In February 2006 dismissed, deprived of state awards and honorary



titles (including the titles “Hero of Turkmenistan” and “Honorary Elder of Turkmenistan”).

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in February 2006 on charges of misconduct in 2001-2005. Convicted in March 2005. According to unconfirmed information, sentenced to 13 years of imprisonment (<http://www.tmhelsinki.org/ru/modules/news/article.php?storyid=107>), in another version – to 17 years of imprisonment with confiscation of property.

Current situation: On July 12, 2006, the Turkmenistan Initiative for Human Rights reported that Ahmedov died in custody in early July 2006 apparently from a heart attack. “Last week his body was returned home (to Lebap Province) in the trunk of a car. The funeral took place under the supervision of employees of the security police in an atmosphere of secrecy” (<http://www.centrasia.ru/newsA.php?st=1152673860>). Former political prisoner Geldy Kyarizov confirmed that Ahmedov died in Ovadan Depe prison in August 2006. According to his cellmates, about a month or two before his death, he could not walk, but did not receive the necessary medication. After his death, his body, decaying in the heat, was left on the bed in his prison cell for two days (<http://www.fergananews.com/articles/8836>).

#### 101. **Baltaev, Narkuly**

Biography: Lived in Dostlyk collective farm of Turkmenabad city of Lebap Province. Participated in informal studies on Islam, conducted by Bakhram Saparov.

Arrest and conviction: Arrested in 2013. Charged with involvement in anti-state activities (conspiracy to take power, etc.). Convicted in 2013 by Lebap province court under Art. 174, 175, 177 and others of the CCT. Sentenced to a long prison term.

Current situation: According to *Alternative Turkmenistan News*, he died in autumn 2016 in Ovadan Depe prison. His body was handed over to the family for burial. At the time of death, he weighed no more than 25 kg (<http://habartm.org/archives/6290>, [http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=2249](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2249)).

#### 102. **Valiev, Saparmamed Urkudovich**

Biography: Born in 1942 in Nebitdag. In 1961 graduated Nebitdag Technical Institute, in 1973–Moscow Institute of Petrochemical and Natural Gas Industry (in absentia). From 1961 worked in various positions in the industrial complex, “Turkmenneft.” In 1979-1995—Chief engineer, head of Nebitdagneft company. From 1995—First Deputy Chair of “Balkannebitgazsenagat” business (reorganized to the state corporation “Turkmenneft”). From July 10 1997—State Minister, Chairman of the State Corporation “Turkmenneft.” On August 12, 2005, dismissed “for serious shortcomings in work and abuse of power.” President Niyazov instructed law enforcement agencies to complete their investigation in 20 days (*Neitralnyi Turkmenistan*, 13.08.2005).

Arrest and conviction: On August 22, 2005 at a meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan he was accused of corruption, stealing state resources and abuse of power, bringing damage to the state of no less than US \$80 million. On the same day was arrested, deprived of state awards and honorary titles, including the title of “Hero of Turkmenistan” (*Neitralnyi Turkmenistan*, 23.08.2005). On September 13, 2005, President Niyazov stated that Valiev was already “punished by merit,” and that he “must return to the state US \$25 million” (*Neitralnyi Turkmenistan*, 14.09.2005). On September 19, 2005, it became known, that the ex-minister was convicted by Supreme Court of Turkmenistan and sentenced to 24 years of imprisonment (*ITAR-TASS*, 19.06.2005; *Noviye Izvestiya*, 21.09.2005).

Current situation: According to information from the government of



Turkmenistan in April 2017, his relatives visit him and communicate with him regularly. However, on October 5, 2017 a correspondent of RFE/RL Turkmen service reported that his body was handed over to his relatives in mid-August 2017 and buried at the Gara Akhun cemetery in Balkan province. Prior to that his relatives had no visits with him and no information about his whereabouts (<http://rus.azathabar.com/a/28775885.html>). In June 2018, the government reported that Valiev died in custody from a heart attack on July 3, 2017. In early July 2017, Valiev's death was confirmed by an unofficial source.

### 103. Gafurov, Aziz

**Biography:** Born in 1982 in the Urgendji settlement near Turkmenabad in Lebap Province. Participated in informal studies on Islam conducted by Bakhram Saparov. Lived in the town of Urgendji (near Turkmenabad).

**Arrest and conviction:** Arrested in late 2015. Charged with involvement in anti-state activities. Convicted in 2016(?) under Art. 174, 175, 177 and others of the CCT. Sentenced to a long prison term.

**Current situation:** According to *Alternative Turkmenistan News*, he died in June 2017 in Ovadan Depe prison. His body was handed over to the family for burial on June 24, 2017. According to eye witness reports from relatives, "Aziz's body was blue from beating...unbelievably skinny and droopy." His parents and other relatives who were present at the washing of the body, took a statement of nondisclosure. (<http://habartm.org/archives/7474>).

### 104. Gurbanmuradov, Yelly Agaevich

**Biography:** Born on February 25, 1960, in Ashgabat. In 1977-1982 studied at the Turkmen Institute of National Economy. From 1982 worked in various positions in departments of the State Bank of the USSR in Ashgabat. From 1988—Deputy Chief of the provincial department of Zhilsotsbank USSR. From 1989—branch manager of Agroprombank of USSR in O.Kuliev town. From 1990—branch manager of the USSR Vnesheconombank of USSR in Ashgabat. From 1992—First Deputy Chairman of the State Bank for Foreign Economic Affairs of Turkmenistan. From June 15, 1993 to March 31, 2001—Chairman of the State Bank for Foreign Economic Affairs of Turkmenistan. Simultaneously, from June 2, 1997 to May 20, 2005—Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan, overseeing the fuel and energy complex and chemical industry; from June 6, 1997—Deputy Chairman of the Competent Authority for Use of Hydrocarbon Resources under the President of Turkmenistan; from December 27, 1995—Deputy Chairman, from June 4, 1997—Chairman of the Currency Committee under the President of Turkmenistan, managing the International Monetary Fund for Turkmenistan; from May 28, 1996—Director of the State Agency for Foreign Investments under the President of Turkmenistan; from June 2, 1997, to May 24, 1999—Chairman of the Interbank Board. On May 20, 2005, dismissed from his posts "for serious shortcomings in the work and abuse of power for personal gain." Lived in Ashgabat.

**Arrest and conviction:** Arrested on May 21, 2005. Charged with abuse of power and stealing state resources for a total sum of US \$60.5 million and 7.1 billion manat (*Turkmenistan.ru*, 21.05.2005), contacts with foreign security forces, etc. According to official data, the amount of the incriminated amount stolen was increased to US \$99.2



million and 5.9 billion manat, of which 1.2 million and 2 billion were returned. During the investigation, 20 houses and apartments, 18 cars, 450 kg of gold and silver jewelry, and more than 4,600 head of cattle were seized. In June 2005 the case of Gurbanmuradov was sent to the Supreme Court of Turkmenistan (*Turkmenistan.ru*, 11.06.2005). Rumors circulated about his death (suicide or murder) in the detention center at the end of May 2005 (Gundogar, 11.06.2005), which were unconfirmed. Convicted in late July 2005. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment with confiscation of property (Gundogar, 25.07.2005). It was reported that his cousin **Begmurad Gurbanmuradov** (former head of the “Turkmendenizyollary,” the state agency for sea and river transport) stood trial with Yelly Gurbanmuradov (*Turkmenistan.ru*, 11.06.2005), who was accused of illegal shipment of oil from Turkmenbashi to Turkey via Iran, Azerbaijan, and other countries. An independent source confirms that Begmurad was convicted. According to unconfirmed reports, at about the same time, the civil wife of Yelly Gurbanmuradov, 44-year old **Olga Kudratova**, was sentenced to 8 years of imprisonment (according to other information, to 15 years) (Gundogar, 16.01.2006). At the present time she is free. On June 24, 2013, the Turkmen Initiative for Human Rights reported that his brother, **Begli Gurbanmuradov**, convicted in 2005, died from a heart attack in the strict security colony in Bayramali on June 17, 2013.

*Current situation:* In February 2007, not long after the death of President Niyazov, there were rumors of Gurbanmuradov’s possible release from Ovadan Depe prison or transfer under house arrest, which later were not confirmed. According to the Turkmen Initiative for Human Rights, Gurbanmuradov died in custody on December 1, 2015. On the next day his body was handed over to relatives. He was buried on December 3, 2015 (<http://www.chrono-tm.org/2015/12/skonchalsya-ellyi-kurbanmuradov/>). The information was confirmed by independent sources. According to eyewitness of the funeral, the body weighed less than 50 kilograms, in comparison with more than 120 kilograms before arrest. Gurbanmuradov’s relatives received no information about him after his detention in 2005.

#### 105. Djumaev, Chary Rozyevich

*Biography:* Born on December 28, 1957, in Ashgabat. According to some sources, worked in the business of his brother Guvanch Djumaev, and also headed the Society of Inventors and Innovators of Turkmenistan. Lived in Ashgabat. Son of Rozy Djumaev and younger brother of Guvanch Djumaev.

*Arrest and conviction:* Detained between November 25 and 26, 2002 and charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. According to a cellmate, was tortured. Sentenced in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 2; 275 p. 2; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

*Current situation:* His relatives have no information about him after the trial. According to unofficial information (“List of 25”), he died in custody on April 18, 2007. Former political prisoner Akmukhammet Bayhanov testified that Chary Djumaev died in Ovadan Depe prison in the second half of April 2007. The body was not handed over to the family.

#### **106. Durdyev, Vekil Ataevich**

*Biography:* Born in 1952 in Akhal Province. A retired colonel in the intelligence field, former officer of the KGB/National Security Committee. In 1969-1974 studied at the Law Department of Turkmen State University. According to certain information, repeatedly visited Pakistan disguised as a pilgrim during the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Former Consul General of Turkmenistan in Mashhad (Iran) and Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirates). From January 28, 2000, chairman of the State Committee for Tourism and Sport. On August 31, 2000 dismissed for “failure to fulfill the necessary tasks.” Lived in Ashgabat.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on December 9, 2002 and charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison; the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

*Current situation:* His relatives had no information about him after the trial. On August 26, 2016, the opposition website “Gundogar” reported that Durdyev died in prison in the beginning of August 2016. His body was handed over to the family for burial (<http://gundogar.org/?0225000000000000000011062016080000#17069>). Other sources confirm this information.

#### **107. Durdyev, Habibylla Abdullaevich**

*Biography:* Born in 1955 in Tejen town of Ahal Province. Graduated from the Agronomy School in Ashgabat, the Turkmen Institute of National Economy, in 1988 from Tashkent Higher Party School. From 1978, worked in the Komsomol as an instructor, department head of the Tejen District Committee, Head of the Section, Head of the Department of Province Committee of Ashgabat, the First Secretary of the Proletarian District Committee of Turkmen Komsomol. From 1988 worked at the Central Committee of the LKSM of Turkmenia, chairman of the Bureau of International Youth Tourism “Sputnik,” the Secretary of the Central Committee of LKSM of Turkmenia. From November 1990 to September 1991—First Secretary of the Central Committee of LKSM of Turkmenia. From April 16, 1991—member of the Central Committee and the Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Turkmenistan. From 1992 to 1999(?)—Chairman of the Central Council of the Makhtumkuli Youth Union of Turkmenistan. Simultaneously, from June 25, 1992—Chairman of the State Customs Committee of Turkmenistan. From June 12, 1998 - Chairman of the Association of Bread Products, “Turkmengallaonumleri.” From June 30, 1999—Khyakim of Balkan Province. From September 11, 2000 - khyakim of Dashoguz Province. On November 15, 2002, dismissed “for serious shortcomings in work and unqualified for his work responsibilities.” Was accused of disrupting the plan to pick cotton. (*Neitralnyi Turkmenistan*, 16.11.2002).

*Arrest and conviction:* According to information from the Turkmen Initiative for Human Rights, after his resignation Durdyev was sent outside the province and sent for an indefinite period to the Atamurat Niyazov Association in the virgin lands of Shahsenem, where he received 2 hectares of land for growing cotton, which he must surrender to the state. According to the Turkmen Helsinki Fund for Human Rights, in the summer of 2004 after two retired officials fled the country, Durdyev was arrested and imprisoned (<http://www.tmhelsinki.org/ru/modules/news/article.php?storyid=404>).

Later, rumors circulated about his being set free, but could not be verified. Thus, according to the historian Shokhrat Kadyrov, Durdyev was accused of inflicting damage on the state in the amount of US \$50 thousand and attempting to flee the country, but was allegedly not convicted because of the support of President Niyazov's son. According to Wikipedia, Durdyev was imprisoned without trial, but released under an amnesty in December 2008.

*Current situation:* On August 4, 2009, the website, "Gundogar" reported the death of Durdyev in prison. Precise data and the cause of death are unknown. The body was returned to the relatives (<http://www.centrasia.ru/news2.php?st=1249458660>). According to unconfirmed witnesses, he died in prison on August 3, 2009 (List of 25). The death of Durdyev in prison in the summer of 2009 is confirmed by other sources.

#### **108. Kakaev, Hayit**

*Biography:* Born in 1957 in the Tagta District of Dashoguz Province. Deputy Head of the National Security Committee of Turkmenistan, Head of the Department of NSS for Ashgabat, Colonel. On March 4, 2002, dismissed "for serious shortcomings on the job and failure to fulfill employment responsibilities," deprived of military rank and state awards. Lived in Ashgabat.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested in March-April 2002. Accused of serious and gravely serious crimes connected with his work in the KNB. During the investigation, was tortured. Convicted on June 15, 2002 by Supreme Court of Turkmenistan along with Muhamed Nazarov and Allamurat Allakulyev of violating thirteen articles of the CCT (Art. 101, 107, 148, 182, 184, 195, 229, 292 and others). Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment (3 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony), with confiscation of property (*Turkmenistan.ru*, 19.06.2002). After the trial was taken to prison in Turkmenbashi, where he was held in one of the special cells for convicted employees of law enforcement structures.

*Current situation:* According to information from "Memorial," died in prison in Turkmenbashi around April 8-9, 2003. The body was given to the relatives (<http://www.memo.ru/d/304.html>). Similar information about the death of Kakaev in April 2003 was received by the opposition movement "Watan."

#### **109. Kapotov, Aleksey**

*Biography:* Computer repair specialist. Russian citizen. In 1992, escaped from a penal colony in Russia, where he served his sentence. Lived in Ashgabat without documents.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested in late 2002 during the investigation of the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Charged with providing a hide-out for several days to Yklym Yklymov, a participant in the plot (<http://izvestia.ru/news/276418#ixzz2kv9i37h5>).

*Current situation:* According to information of the former political prisoner Leonid Komarovsky, Kapotov died in the pre-trial detention center of the Ministry of National Security in Ashgabat in early 2003.

#### **110. Meredov, Payzygeldy**

*Biography:* Born in 1943 in the village of Krasnoe Znamya in Iolotan district of Mary Province. In 1964 graduated from Turkmen Polytechnic Institute. From 1965 to 1972—main engineer, head of trust, "Marystroy," Chairman of Mary regional collective construction. From 1985—Chairman of the Mary city council. From 1986-1990—Director of Bayram-Ali food oil combine. From 1991—Deputy Chairman of the State



Agricultural-industrial Committee of the Turkmen SSR. From August 1991—General Director of the Republican industrial concern, “Turkmenagroprompererabotka.” From January 1990 to May 1992—Deputy of the Supreme Soviet of the Turkmen SSR, from May 18, 1992 to January 1, 1995—Deputy of the Mejlis of Turkmenistan. From June 26, 1992—Minister of Agriculture, Food, and Processing Industry of Turkmenistan, later, Minister of Agriculture and Food. Simultaneously from February 24, 1993—Deputy Chairman of the State commission for land reform; from March 28, 1994—Chairman of the State commission for reform of collective farms, state farms and other agricultural establishments in Turkmenistan. Dismissed from work on July 29, 1994 “at his own request.” The resignation was accompanied by public accusations from President Niyazov of financial abuse. From 1994—Deputy Minister of Economics and Finance. From March 10, 1995—Khyakim of Gyaversk District of Akhal Province. Dismissed from work on July 7, 1997 “for inadequacies at work.” Later again returned to state service, was named acting khyakim of Chandybil Province of the city of Ashgabat. On August 28, 2006, dismissed from work “for serious shortcomings in the work.” Simultaneously, from approximately 1998-2007—Executive Director of the company, “Gok Gusak,” carrying out maintenance of various state structures by planting seedlings of trees and bushes in gardening projects. In the spring of 2007 he retired. According to media reports, he also worked in business through the UAE. According to relatives, since 2006 Meredov was treated for hepatitis, he was almost daily given injections and a special diet, he also suffered from hypertension and diabetes. Lived in Ashgabat.

Arrest and conviction: According to unconfirmed information, was detained for several days after the death of Niyazov, and then let go. (*Vremya Novostei*, 08.08.2007, <http://www.vremya.ru/2007/140/5/183914.html>). Arrested on July 29, 2007. Accused of negligent attitude to official duties at his last place of work and violations of customs legislation related to the export of cotton. Contained in the detainment center of the Ministry of National Security. Convicted in autumn 2007. Sentenced to 19 years of imprisonment in a strict security colony with confiscation of property. Together with him, his deputy, and another official were tried. Around January 2008, he was accused of violating the regime and transferred to Ovadan Depe prison. The first six months there he was allowed food transfers (twice a month); then they were banned. Letters and visits were not allowed until his death.

Current situation: Died in the Ovadan Depe prison on August 17, 2013 from a heart attack. The body was given over to his relatives.

#### **111. Muradova, Ogulsapar Karlievna**

Biography: Born on January 10, 1948 in Ashgabat. In 1972, she graduated from the Turkmen Polytechnic Institute as the first Turkmen woman qualified as an electrical engineer. During the Soviet era, she was employed with Ashgorsvet, the Ashgabat Trolleybus Directorate, and served as the chief electrical engineer of the VDNKh of Turkmenistan. She was active in labor unions and women’s councils. In the 2000s, she became known as a human rights defender and a journalist, cooperated with the Turkmen service of RFE/RL, European media and the Turkmen Helsinki Foundation, established in 2003 with the participation of her brother Annadurdy Khadzhiev in Bulgaria. Lived in Ashgabat.



Arrest and conviction: Detained on June 18, 2006. On June 19, 2006, Geldymukhammed Ashirmukhammedov, Minister of National Security, announced that

Muradova, her brother Sapardurdy Khadzhiev, and civil activist Annarkurban Amanklychev had been involved in gathering slanderous information to incite public discontent and had contacts with foreign secret services and “subversive centers” (*Neutral Turkmenistan*, 20.06. 2006). Following international protests, political charges were replaced by those of illegal possession of ammunitions, which were planted in Amanklychev’s car. Convicted on August 25,<sup>1</sup> 2006 by the Azatlyk District Court of Ashgabat under Art. 287 p.2 (illegal possession of arms) of CCT. Sentenced to 6 years of imprisonment. Her appeal was turned down. Amanklychev and Khadzhiev were tried and convicted alongside Muradova and sentenced on the same charges to 7 years of imprisonment. On September 20, 2006, the Supreme Court of Turkmenistan turned down the appeal. Both men were released on February 16, 2013.

Current situation: Was held incommunicado since her arrest in June 2006. According to information from the government of Turkmenistan, provided to the UN Human Rights Committee in December 2015, she had been kept in Ovadan Depe prison (AH-T/2) and on September 13, 2006 “committed suicide by hanging herself”. On September 14, 2006, her body, bearing marks of torture, was handed over to relatives for burial. According to unconfirmed information received by the RFE/RL Turkmen service in December 2006 from a law enforcement official, she died during an interrogation with the use of torture at the Ovadan Depe prison, applied by the MNB officers, while the “suicide” was staged to conceal the real circumstances of her death. Her relatives believe that she had died from torture while in the pre-trial detention prison of the MNB in Ashgabat before she could be brought to Ovadan Depe.

On April 6, 2018, the UN Human Rights Committee ruled on Ogulsapar Muradova’s case submitted by her brother Annadurdy Khadzhiev. The Committee found violations in respect of Muradova’s rights to life, to freedom from torture, to personal integrity, to a fair trial, and to freedom of expression. The Committee found the government of Turkmenistan to be under an obligation to conduct a thorough, prompt and impartial investigation into Muradova’s arbitrary arrest and detention, torture and death in custody; provide full redress to the author of the complaint and other family members, including adequate compensation and rehabilitation for the name of Muradova; and provide all information regarding the investigation, including the findings of the autopsy and copies of trial transcripts and the court judgment to her lawyer and the family members.

## **112. Nazarov, Mukhamet Nazarovich**

Biography: Born in 1951 in the village of Karabekaul in Lebap Province. From 1975, worked in Komsomol organizations, from 1982, in institutions of state security. From January 6, 1993—Deputy Chairman of the National Security Committee (KNB) of Turkmenistan, from October 11, 1996—Chairman of the Committee of National Security of Turkmenistan. Simultaneously from May 7, 2001 to March 4, 2002—Advisor to the President of Turkmenistan on Legal Affairs and Coordinator of law enforcement and military authorities. On September 25, 1992 was awarded the military rank of lieutenant colonel. In the next six years he received the rank of colonel, major general, lieutenant-general, colonel-general (October 6, 1998). On March 4, 2002, he was demoted to the rank of lieutenant-general “for shortcomings in his work.” On March 14, 2002 dismissed as chairman of the KNB “for serious shortcomings and omissions in the work, and use of official position for personal purposes.” On April 1, 2002 was stripped of military ranking, State awards, and dismissed from military service. Lived in Ashgabat.

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<sup>1</sup> The document submitted by the government of Turkmenistan to the UN Human Rights Committee in December 2015 wrongly indicated the date of the trial as August 17, 2006.



*Arrest and conviction:* Some sources indicate that Nazarov was placed under house arrest until trial. Accused of committing serious and particularly serious crimes related to his work in the KNB. Convicted by the Supreme Court of Turkmenistan on July 15, 2002 together with Allamurad Allakuliev and Khayit Kakaev in accordance with thirty articles of the CCT (art. 101, 107, 148, 182, 184, 195, 229, and others.) Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment (three years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property (Turkmenistan.ru, 19.06.2002). The sister of the wife of Nazarov, chair of the Committee for Science, Education, and Culture, **Nurtach Velmamedova**, was dismissed from work and stripped of her status as a deputy on April 1, 2002. On April 3, 2002, was arrested and sentenced to 10 years in prison for taking bribes in 1996 for illegally issuing a birth certificate and a military ticket to a citizen of Uzbekistan (*Neitralnyi Turkmenistan*, 03.04.2002). Released in 2007.

*Current situation:* According to various sources, in 2002-2004 was detained in a prison in Turkmenbashi in one of the special cells for convicted officers of the security forces. According to unconfirmed reports, he died in custody on September 10, 2004 (“List of 25”). Other unofficial sources also report the death of Nazarov in a prison in Turkmenbashi during the reign of Niyazov. According to some reports, since 2003 he suffered from a mental disorder.

### 113. **Otuzov, Begmurad Saparbaevich**

*Biography:* Born in Dashoguz Province. Graduated from the Turkmen State University Faculty of Law and the Higher KGB Courses in Kiev. Served in Turkmenistan’s Border Guard, then in the KNB. In the mid-1990s—Deputy Head of the investigation department of the National Security Committee of Turkmenistan, approximately from 1997—Head of the investigation department of the KNB of Turkmenistan, Colonel. From January 16, 2001—First Deputy of the General Prosecutor of Turkmenistan. From July 9, 2001—First Deputy Khyakim of Lebap Province, chairman of the council for coordinating activities of law enforcement and military bodies of Lebap Province. On April 2, 2002, dismissed “for serious shortcomings during the period of work in the National Security Committee of Turkmenistan,” deprived of military rank and state awards.



*Arrest and conviction:* According to unconfirmed reports, was arrested a few days after his dismissal. Charged with official crimes related to his service in the KNB. Convicted on October 23, 2002. Sentenced to 19 years of imprisonment (<http://habartm.org/archives/8856>), according to other reports, to 25 years (<http://www.centrasia.ru/newsA.php?st=1038696180>).

*Current situation:* The family did not have any information about Otuzov’s whereabouts after his trial. Visits and correspondence were prohibited; according to some reports, parcels were permitted in later years. In early 2014, the Turkmen Initiative for Human Rights received an unconfirmed report, according to which Otuzov was held in the AH-K/3 colony near Ovadan Depe prison. According to the *Chronicles of Turkmenistan*, he died in early February 2018 in the Ovadan Depe prison. At the time of death, he weighed 45 kg (<http://www.hronikatm.com/2018/03/v-ovadan-depe-skonchalsya-begmurad-otuzov-odin-iz-spiska-lits-propavshih-v-turkmenskih-tyurmah/>). According to another report, he died in custody from heart failure on the night of December 3 to 4, 2017. The body was handed over to relatives in the Tejen morgue; he was “terribly thin, and the relatives were able to identify him only by his birthmarks.”

After a farewell ceremony in Ashgabat, he was buried on December 6, 2017, in the cemetery in Kunya-Urgench. (<http://habartm.org/archives/8856>).

#### 114. Pavlinov, Aleksander Konstantinovich

**Biography:** Born in 1957 in Ashgabat. University education. Before the spring of 1992, he worked in the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Turkmenistan (his last position was that of deputy chief of non-departmental security service in the rank of Major, then until 1993, in the Customs Service of Turkmenistan (Chief of Customs Checkpoint in Dashoguz). After retiring from public service, established a company for the installation of security equipment; bought equipment in Israel. Lived in Ashgabat and was a Master of Sports, including a multiple champion of Turkmenistan in fencing.

**Arrest and conviction:** According to unconfirmed information, arrested in the spring or autumn of 2002 on economic charges. Sentenced to 5 to 7 years of imprisonment. Later charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002 (providing communication means to the plotters, etc.). Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. "a," "b," "f," "g," "h," "i," "l"; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 235 p. 2 s. "a," "b"; 254 p. 4 s. "a," "b"; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 2; 275 p. 2; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property and further settlement in a designated area for 5 years.

**Current situation:** According to unofficial information ("List of 25"), he died in custody on January 1, 2004. The journalist Batyr Muhammadov confirmed that Pavlinov died in Ovadan Depe prison around the end of 2003 or early 2004. According to the official version, he died of a heart attack. However, according to a witness of the funeral, the body was handed over to the family with a cleaved head.

#### 115. Redjepov, Akmurad Kulievich

**Biography:** Born on May 3, 1949, in the Sakar District of Lebap Province. In 1974-1979, studied in the Higher School of the KGB of the USSR. After graduating, returned to Turkmenistan and served in the Department of KGB of Lebap Province. From 1980 worked in Ashgabat: an officer on special assignment under the First Secretary of the Central Committee of Communist Party of Turkmenistan, Mukhammetnazar Gapurov, and after his retirement in 1985, in the detail of the new Head of the Republic, Saparmurat Niyazov. From 1992—Head of the Security Service of the President of Turkmenistan. Earned the rank of Lieutenant-General. On May 15, 2007, dismissed "in connection with his transfer to another job." Lived in Ashgabat.



**Arrest and conviction:** On May 17, 2007 it became known that Redjepov had been arrested along with his son, Colonel of the MNS, Nurmurat Redjepov, who was called in to Ashgabat from the UAE, where he served as a counselor in the Embassy of Turkmenistan. (*Vremya Novostei*, 18.05.2007). According to unconfirmed reports, he was summoned to a meeting and arrested even before signing a statement of resignation. According to other reports, Redjepov was suddenly arrested the day after a meeting on May 12, 2007, in the city of Turkmenbashi, of the presidents of Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan and Russia (*Vremya Novostei*, 31.07.2007). According to the verdict, was arrested on May 18, 2007. US \$9.5 million were confiscated. The charge was connected with bribes and involvement in the tobacco business (import of tobacco products without

paying taxes and customs duties), which, prior to the death of President Niyazov, was supervised by his son Murad Niyazov, who lives abroad. Sentenced on July 27, 2007 by the Supreme Court of Turkmenistan in accordance with Articles 181 p. 2; 184 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “c,” “d”; 245 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “c”; 261; 262 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “c”; 275 p. 1 of the CCT. Sentenced to 17 years of loss of freedom to be spent in a strict security colony with confiscation of property and denial of undertaking material-responsible and leadership responsibilities for three years (a translation of the sentence is available at <http://habartm.org/archives/6448>). He was convicted together with his son **Nurmurat Redjepov** (sentenced to 13 years) and businessman Murad Agayev, former head of the firm “Oriental” (sentenced to 17 years). Nurmurat Redjepov was released through an amnesty decree on September 29, 2007.

*Current situation:* For 10 years, Redjepov’s relatives have had no information about his fate. According to information from the Human Rights Center “Memorial” and the website “Gundogar,” he died on August 10, 2017 in the Ovadan Depe prison from thrombosis. On the same day his body was handed over to relatives in Ashgabat (<http://www.fergananews.com/news/26752>).

#### 116. Saparov, Redjep

*Biography:* Born in 1947, in Isrik-Kara village in Ilyaly District of Dashoguz Province. In 1971 graduated from Djambul Technological Institute of Service and Food Industry. Master of Economic Sciences degree. From 1971 held various positions in the light industry sector of the republic. From 1980—Chief of Human Resource Department of the Ministry of Light Industry of the Turkmen SSR. From 1983—Senior referent, deputy head of the Department of Administration of the Council of Ministers of the Turkmen SSR. From 1986—Head of the Department of Light Industry, from 1987—Deputy Chairman of the State Planning Commission of the Turkmen SSR. From 1989—Minister of Local Industry of the Turkmen SSR. From November 25, 1990—Director General of the National Republican Association “Turkmenhaly” (Turkmen Carpet). From June 26, 1992—Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan. Initially, he oversaw trade, production of consumer goods and services, cross-sectoral and international relations, later also small enterprises and businesses, and from June 2000 - agriculture. On November 15, 2002 was dismissed from his employment “for inadequacies in the work.” Simultaneously, from January 16, 2001 to September 10, 2002 - Minister of Agriculture of Turkmenistan. From November 15, 2002—Managing Director of the Apparatus of the President of Turkmenistan. Simultaneously, from 2003(?)—Coordinator of Turkmenistan for work with CIS countries; from August 15, 2003—Deputy Chairman of the People’s Council (Halk Maslahaty) of Turkmenistan. On July 1, 2005, dismissed “for serious shortcomings in the work.” Candidate of Economics. Lived in Ashgabat.



*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested in July 2005. Accused of abuse of power and others. Information from the state agency mentions numerous bribes received from heads of regions, companies and Turkish firm. US \$2.161 million, 107 kilograms of gold and silver jewelry (total cost of US \$10 million), etc., were seized during searches (Turkmenistan.ru, 28.07.2005). Convicted on July 25, 2005 by the Supreme Court of Turkmenistan under Art. 181 p.1; 182 s. “d,” 184; 229 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “e,” and p. 4 s. “a”; 287 p. 2 and 4 of the CCT. Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment with confiscation of property.

*Current situation:* According to the Turkmen Initiative for Human Rights, Saparov was held in Ovadan Depe prison from August 2005, where he died at the end of October 2009. The body was released to relatives in a zinc coffin. Despite an official ban, the family opened the coffin to wash the body (<http://www.centrasia.ru/newsA.php?st=1257316380>). The death of Saparov in approximately 2009 is confirmed by another emigrant source. According to the website, “Gundogar,” Saparov died at the end of October in 2011. (<http://gundogar-mediawiki.tw1.ru/index.php/Сапаров, Реджеп>)

#### 117. **Taymazov, Chary**

*Biography:* Born in 1958. Customs Officer. Lived in Mary Province.

*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested in late 2002 during the investigation of the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Charged with complicity in the preparation of customs documents in autumn of 2002 for the import from Turkey of a consignment of water heating tanks, inside which the coup plotters allegedly hid weapons. Convicted in 2003 under Art. 181 p. 2 and 187 of the CCT. Sentenced to 8 years of imprisonment in a general security colony. Held in the LBK-12 penal colony in Seydi town of Lebap Province. In April 2004, isolated together with 16 other “terrorists” in a separate block of the colony.

*Current situation:* According to information of the former political prisoner Akmukhammet Bayhanov, Taymazov died in custody of hepatitis in January 2005. His body was handed over to the family.

#### 118. **Tyrmyev, Turkish**

*Biography:* Born on January 2, 1951 in the village of Leningrad in the Oktyabr District of Dashoguz Province. In 1971 graduated from the Turkmen Polytechnic Institute, in 1985—the Institute of KGB in Moscow. Worked in Institute “TurkmenNIPIneft” where held various positions including in management. From 1977—First Secretary of the Municipal Committee of Komsomol in Nebitdag. During 1981-1982—Secretary of the Central Committee of LKSM of Turkmenia. After the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, worked for some time in that country, overseeing the work of the railroad at the Turgundi station. From 1985 worked in various positions in the KGB, from 1992, in National Security Committee of Turkmenistan. From 1993 to 1997 - head of the Department of the National Security Committee of Mary Province. From January 1999—First Deputy Chairman of the National Security Committee of Turkmenistan. From April 23, 1999—Head of the State Border Service. On October 25, 2001 was promoted to Lieutenant General. On March 5, 2002 demoted to Major General and named head of the department of Management of Mary Province for the city of Mary. On April 1, 2002, dismissed “for serious shortcomings in his the work,” dismissed from military service, deprived of military rank and state awards. Lived in Ashgabat.



*Arrest and conviction:* Arrested on April 5, 2002. Charges were brought in accordance with four articles of the Criminal Code, including negligence, abuse of office, and involvement in the violation of the inviolability of the home. Before the verdict, only one meeting with his mother was allowed on May 6, 2002. Convicted on 21 May 2002 by the Supreme Court of Turkmenistan under Art. 33-148 p. 2; 358 p. 3; 359 p. 2 of the CCT. Sentenced to 10 years of imprisonment in a strict security colony. In September



2002 was held in solitary confinement in the detention center of the Ministry of National Security in Ashgabat. Later taken to a prison. Ten days prior to the end of his initial sentence, he was charged with a crime against a prison guard. Convicted on March 6, 2012 by the Akhal Provincial Court under Art. 213 p. 1 of the CCT. Sentenced to 7 years and 11 months of imprisonment.

**Current situation:** After the trial, his relatives had no knowledge about his fate. Appeals to official bodies in 2003 and 2012 did not yield results. According to information provided by the government of Turkmenistan in June 2017 to the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, had been kept in prison AH-T/2 in Ovadan Depe and the colony MR-K/16. Died in custody on January 13, 2017. The body was handed over to relatives in Ashgabat for burial.

#### **119. Khallyev, Tagandurdy Khallyevich**

**Biography:** Born in 1939 in the Hasan-Kuli District of the Balkan Province. Deputy of the Mejlis (Parliament) of Turkmenistan, former speaker of Mejlis. Doctor of Science in philosophy (1992). In 1963 graduated from Turkmen State University (TSU). From 1963 worked in TSU, held positions of Lecturer of Philosophy, Head of Department, Dean of the Faculty of Law, Deputy Rector for Research, and Deputy Rector for Academic Affairs of TSU. From May 18, 1991 was Rector of TSU. From August 10, 1992 to May 24, 1999, Minister of Justice of Turkmenistan. Simultaneously, from September 17, 1998 served as Head of the Department of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan (responsible for the law enforcement and military forces). From January 6, 1999 to January 17, 2001 was Advisor to the President of Turkmenistan on legal matters and on coordination of law enforcement and military agencies. In 2001-2002, Deputy of the Mejlis (parliament) of Turkmenistan. From January 7, 2001, Chairman of the Mejlis Committee on legislation. From March 13, 2002 – Chairman of the Mejlis of Turkmenistan. According to information published by the opposition website “Gundogar,” in August 2002, President Niyazov accused Khallyev of having links with the opposition and began preparing for his dismissal (<http://www.centrasia.ru/newsA.php?st=1031725800>). On November 12, 2002, Khallyev resigned from his duties as Chairman of the Mejlis due to “health reasons.” Lived in Ashgabat.



**Arrest and conviction:** Arrested on December 9, 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. On December 14, 2002, deprived of the status of Mejlis deputy by a unanimous decision of Mejlis. The video of his “confession” was broadcast on TV on December 18, 2002. On the same day, by the decision of the Higher Council for Science and Technology under the President of Turkmenistan, he was stripped of his academic titles of Associate Professor and Professor and degrees of Candidate of Science and Doctor of Science in philosophy. On December 24, 2002 fired from the Mejlis. Convicted on January 18, 2003 by the Supreme Court of Turkmenistan under Art. 14-101 p. 2 s. “a,” “b,” “f,” “g,” “h,” “i,” “l”; 129 p. 3; 169 p. 1, 2; 174 p. 2; 176 p. 1; 214 p. 2; 218 p. 1, 2, 3; 231 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 235 p. 2 s. “a,” “b”; 254 p. 4 s. “a,” “b”; 271 p. 3; 273 p. 1; 275 p. 1; 287 p. 3 of the CCT. Sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment (5 years in prison, the rest in a strict security colony) with confiscation of property, further settlement in a designated area for 5 years and prohibited from holding financially responsible and leading management positions for 3 years after release.

**Current situation:** Various sources reported his death in custody in 2003-2006. According to one version, died on September 24, 2004 (“List of 25”); according to

another, during the first year of imprisonment. Former political prisoner Akmukhammet Bayhanov testified that he learned about Khallyev's death in Ovadan Depe prison between 2003 and 2006. A document of the US Embassy dated 06.11.2007, published by WikiLeaks, describes a written note from a prisoner, according to which the former speaker of the parliament was among 20 persons who died in 2003-2007 in a special block of Ovadan Depe ([http://wikileaks.org/plusd/cables/07ASHGABAT1204\\_a.html](http://wikileaks.org/plusd/cables/07ASHGABAT1204_a.html)). According to a source living in exile in Sweden, after Niyazov's death, he learned from Khallyev's relatives that the body had been handed over to the family for burial, but former political prisoner Geldy Kyarizov denies this, also with reference to relatives.

#### 120. **Khodjamuradov, Annamurad**

**Biography:** Born on July 11, 1935, in the town of Bayram-Ali in Mary Province. Retired, former head of the government of Turkmenistan during the Soviet period. In 1959, graduated from Moscow Institute of Water Management Engineers. Since 1959, worked as the chief engineer and hydraulic engineer at a collective farm. Since 1960, worked as an engineer, chief engineer, director of the Directorate on the construction of the Karakum Canal. Since 1969, deputy and then first deputy, and since 1979 was Minister of Land Reclamation and Water Resources of the Turkmen Soviet Socialist Republic (TSSR). Since 1985, served as deputy Chair of the Council of Ministers of TSSR. Since January 1986 was Chair of the Council of Ministers of TSSR. From October (?) 1989 to December 1991, representative of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations of the Soviet Union at the Council of Ministers of TSSR. During 1984-1989 – Deputy of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, in 1989-1991—people's deputy of the USSR. Member of the Central Auditing Commission of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (1986-1990). Lived in Ashgabat.



**Arrest and conviction:** Arrested in late 2002. Charged with involvement in the coup attempt on November 25, 2002. Convicted in January 2003 under Art. 210 p. 2 of the CCT. Sentenced to 5 years of imprisonment in a general security colony. Later the custody regime was changed from a colony to prison.

**Current situation** According to unofficial information ("List of 25"), Khodjamuradov died in custody on April 27, 2006. Information on his death in 2006 in the prison in the town of Turkmenbashi was confirmed by a former cellmate, according to whom Khodjamuradov died several hours after he had been beaten by the prison guards for possession of a piece of soap. The body was not handed over to the relatives.

#### 121. **Yaylanov, Lukman**

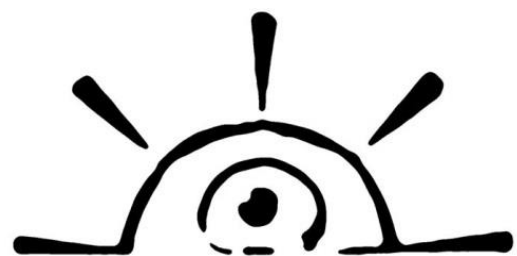
**Biography:** Born in Garabekivul District of Lebap Province. Since 2007 participated in informal studies on Islam conducted by Bakhram Saparov.

**Arrest and conviction:** Arrested on March 9, 2013. Charged with involvement in anti-state activities (conspiracy to take power, etc.). Convicted on May 22, 2013 by Lebap province court under Art. 174 p. 1; 175 p. 2, 177 p. 3; 275 p. 1, 2; 14-291 of the CCT. Sentenced to a long prison term.

**Current situation:** According to *Alternative Turkmenistan News*, he died in the summer of 2016 in Ovadan Depe prison, where he was subjected to torture. His body was handed over to the family for burial (<http://habartm.org/archives/6290>, [http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=2249](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2249)).







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